

GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD, AND PREACH
THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE."



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The Mission Journal.

VOL. XLVII.

MAY, 1896.

No. 1

Foreign Department.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Let us begin our new conventional year by praying to God to keep and bless our missionaries and fill them with His Spirit.

Let us give something right now—May 1st, the beginning of the Convention year. We need this month, to pay regular expenses, between nine and ten thousand dollars. If not given we must borrow it. The missionaries must not be allowed to suffer in the foreign lands. It is bad enough for preachers to have to borrow and be in debt here in the home land. We can easily pay for May during May. Let one thousand of us give, or get and send forward, ten dollars each. More than a thousand will go to the Convention. Let our enthusiasm take a tangible turn. Many who do not go to the Convention can give. Right now let us begin aright. Let all who do not believe in going in debt show it now.

Surely we ought to praise God for His blessings on our foreign mission work during the past year.

The missionaries have been looking on with deep concern to see what the people in the home land would do in the pressure upon the work. Some of them have been sending contributions to help.

On going to press we do not know how we will stand in our finances at the close of the year, but we do know this, if we get out of debt we expect to try hard to get the brethren to pay more promptly in the future. If we do not get out, well—we must all take a fresh hold and try harder than ever in the Master's work.

The Board at its last meeting declined to grant the earnest request of a missionary to come home and see her aged, declining mother. It was a solemn occasion with us, and we considered it

long, but the answer was, "It means more debt, and the brethren will not give." Some day you will see that God's kingdom and God's children are more than hoarded gold.

The number of MISSION JOURNAL subscribers has decreased very much since the consolidation. We have only about half as many regular subscribers now as THE FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL formerly had alone.

How to get our people to thinking and talking and praying and giving for missions is a serious question. If Christ has given us this work to do, surely that man will be honoring Him who can awaken His people on this subject. We urge upon the pastors the importance of presenting the foreign mission work at frequent intervals throughout the year. *Begin at once and keep it up.* Don't wait until just before the next convention.

A brother from Mississippi, writes: "I feel sure that our contributions for 1896 to missions will be at least eight times as much as in the past few years. Beloved, hard times have nothing to do with mission contributions. Preaching missions, praying missions, talking missions, and *collecting* missions will always bring the money."

NOTES OF THE MISSIONARIES.

We are glad that Dr. Graves' book is being read so largely. It is practical, and gives good ideas of China and the work there. Let each family have one.

Our missionaries, Brethren L. W. Pierce and W. W. Lawton, of Chinking, China, have both been quite sick, but last reports pronounced them convalescent.

Dr. J. H. Eager and family were to sail from Genoa April 14th. They go direct to Bedford City, Va., on arrival, to see "the old folks at home" of our sister Eager. They expect to be at the Convention in Chattanooga.

Miss Sarah Hale, our missionary at Guadalajara, Mexico, will be at the Convention and then visit her old home at Sweetwater, Tenn. She is the author of that excellent book on Mexican life, "Mercedes." She has not been home for years.

We have a number of interesting letters from our missionaries, which are crowded out for want of space.

Brother C. E. Smith and family, with Brother W. P. Winn and wife, will probably be out on the ocean on their way to Africa when this reaches our readers. Let a prayer go up to God to watch over them, and use them abundantly in His service in that dark and distant land.

ITALY EDITION,

Our edition this month is especially on Italy and the work there. We are indebted to Bro. E. Y. Mullins and also the Maryland Baptist Mission Rooms. The latter have an excellent tract which they will soon issue. This tract has been prepared by our beloved missionary, Dr. J. H. Eager, of Florence, Italy. Brother Mullins was kindly loaned the use of the manuscript from which he secured much of the information, which he has so excellently arranged and added to, thus giving our readers a feast again in his own inimitable, clear, forceful style. We all return thanks to him and to the M. B. M. Rooms.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY.

Italy is a constitutional monarchy, like England. The Senate and Chamber of Deputies govern the country, the King being about equal in authority to our President, certainly not more so. There is a growing tendency toward the republican form of government. The Salic law is in vogue, which provides that only males can reign.

THE SENATE AND CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

They correspond somewhat to our Senate and Congress, though more nearly to the House of Lords and House of Commons in England. Senators are created for life by the King, on the nomination of a council of ministers. Members of the Chamber of Deputies are elected by the people. The King chooses his Prime Minister, who, in turn, selects the members of his Cabinet. When a law has been approved by the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, it is then presented to the King by the Prime Minister for his signature, without which it remains a dead letter.

VOTERS IN ITALY.

A recent law has greatly extended the right of suffrage in Italy, so that now all men of age, who can read and write, and who pay a certain amount of tax, may vote. The number of voters, however, is comparatively small, as millions are unable to read, and not a few who can read do not pay the required amount of taxes.

In Rome in 1889, out of a population of nearly 400,000, only 45,000 were entitled to vote, and of these only 16,000 actually voted. Very many do not appreciate the responsibilities and duties of citizenship.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN ITALY.

There are three principal political parties in Italy—the Right, the Left, and the Centre—names which signify the positions they occupy

in Parliament with reference to the President. The Right and Left represent the two extremes of Radicalism and Conservatism, while the Centre is the organ of the moderate party, which claims to be a kind of balance-wheel between the other two. Since 1870, when the Pope lost his temporal power, and Rome became the capital of Italy, there have been two strong tendencies in politics—clericalism and anti-clericalism. The contest has been sharp and bitter and obstinate, but in almost every important question the liberal party (anti-clerical) has come off victorious. The latest victory of this party was the grand festival in Rome and throughout Italy, on September 20, 1895, to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the capture of the city. The discourse of the Prime Minister on this occasion fell like a great bomb in the clerical camp.

There are other disturbing tendencies in Italian political life, including the republican and socialistic element. There are reasons to fear that the clerical party will seek to unite socialists and anarchists with themselves, so as to use them for their own purposes. Under existing conditions conscientious Italian statesmen have all that hands and head and heart can do.

THE CITIES OF ITALY AND THEIR GOVERNMENT.

There are about one hundred cities in Italy—a very large number, when it is remembered that Italy is no larger than Georgia and Florida combined. The principal cities are Rome, Naples, Milan, Turin, Florence, Venice, Genoa, Bologna, Pisa, Leghorn, Bari, Palermo. Besides these cities there are thousands of towns. Very few people reside in the country, even many farmers and day-laborers preferring to live in town, though this necessitates a long walk, both morning and evening. Crowds of men and women marching out of town early in the morning, armed with spades and hoes, is a strange sight to an American.

The cities are governed very much as in our own country. Each city has a mayor and municipal council, elected by the people. In the smaller cities, having a population of less than 5,000, the mayor is appointed by the prefect of the province.

THE SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN ITALY.

Italy has thirteen universities, a great many colleges and academies, and not less than ten thousand public schools. Besides these, there are a great many private schools. Most of the present generation, between the ages of ten and twenty, can read, though great ignorance prevails among those who grew up before the present government came into power, and while education was almost exclusively in the hands of the priests. Of these there are probably fifteen millions who cannot read. A great impetus, however, has

been given to education in these late years, and the good effects are already plainly seen. It should not be forgotten that Italy has produced many of the great men of the world, and that in every profession there are to-day men of cultivation, refinement, and high attainments.

MORALITY IN ITALY.

The state of morality in Italy is sad and discouraging. There are many beautiful exceptions to the general rule, but the tone of morals is low, the chief thought of many being, not to avoid the evil, but to escape a scandal. In this respect the Church of Rome has set the example, and is largely responsible for Italy's sad moral and spiritual condition.

Recently a prominent daily of Rome, *La Tribuna*, stated that crime is becoming more frequent in Italy than in any other country of Europe. Brigandage has been largely suppressed, but murders are still very common. As a rule the cause may be expressed in two words—wine and women. Suicides also are distressingly frequent, most trivial reasons often being given for the deed. Two beautiful young women and a young man of twenty committed suicide together in Rome, and the following letter was found on the table:

“Dear ——: Before you receive this, I shall be in Paradise, and I am sure of a hearty welcome because I shall bring with me two beautiful angels.”

NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER CURRENT PUBLICATIONS IN ITALY.

Daily and weekly newspapers are abundant, some of them being ably conducted, and having an immense circulation. Most of these papers are not at all religious in tone, but they are, perhaps, above many of our large dailies at home, and less injurious in their tendency. Able reviews and scientific periodicals are not wanting, though juvenile literature is greatly neglected. Some very valuable translations from English—as, for example, the works of Smiles—have appeared, and are having a large circulation. De Amicis, the most popular writer of Italy, recently wrote a book for the young, which has already passed through nearly two hundred editions of one thousand each. This is partly due to the fact that it has been adopted in the public schools.

UNITED ITALY.

Until recently Italy was divided into several petty kingdoms, dukedoms, republics, and the Papal States. As a consequence great enmity, discord and confusion reigned. After a long and desperate struggle, which culminated on September 20, 1870, when the Italian army entered Rome, all Italy gathered about Victor Emmanuel, and

by a popular vote of the entire nation declared him the first king of United Italy. This unification of Italy is one of the most important events of modern times, and seems to have been God's way of opening Rome and the whole of Italy to the preaching of the gospel. Cavour's famous motto, "A free Church in a Free State," is still the motto of United Italy, much to the sorrow and disgust of the Pope and his followers. Victor Emmanuel, Cavour, d'Azeglio, Mazzini, Garibaldi, Caivoli, and many others who took so prominent a part in the unification of Italy, have passed away, but we are enjoying the fruit of their labors.

THE RELIGION OF ITALY.

Catholicism is the religion of the State, but all sects are now tolerated. The Pope, "who loveth to have the pre-eminence," is by no means satisfied with this arrangement, and hence he is in constant warfare with the government, doing his utmost to prevent the priests entertaining sentiments of patriotism and brotherly love. Incalculable evil has been the result.

THE HOPE OF DISESTABLISHMENT.

It may be far away, but faith says it will surely come, even in Italy, and that all sects will stand on an equal footing. Until that day arrives Cavour's motto cannot be fully realized. Italian statesmen will require great wisdom and courage for the accomplishment of this purpose, which will always find bitter and powerful opponents in the priests and other hierarchies of the Church. The Church of Rome is satisfied with nothing less than the liberty of disestablishment with all the advantages, prestige, protection, government money, etc., of the State Church. But the time is past when this game can be successfully played in Italy.

In his great speech in Rome on September 20 of this year (1895), Crispi, the Prime Minister, said, "Religion is not and ought not to be a function of the State." The success of this great festival, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the fall of the temporal power of the Pope and consequent obstinacy and bitterness of the papal party, will probably hasten disestablishment.

MISSIONS IN ITALY.

Modern mission work began in Italy about the middle of the present century. There were several attempts at reform before this, notably in the sixteenth century, and even before Luther's day. The Church of Rome was too powerful and too wicked to allow the simple gospel to have free course among the people, hence success was very partial and results were meagre. So long as the Pope had the power Protestants were forbidden to propagate their faith on pain of banishment or death, and millions were thus sacrificed.

A great army of martyrs will stand up on the last day to testify against the Church of Rome.

OPENING OF ROME TO THE GOSPEL.

On September 20, 1870, when Victor Emmanuel entered the city at the head of his victorious army, Rome was opened to the preaching of the gospel. It is said that when a popular vote was cast to decide who would be the future ruler of Rome, Pius IX was honored with less than one hundred votes. The people had long chafed under the heavy and hateful burden of priestly rule, and were only too happy to throw it off at the first favorable opportunity.

THE POPE.

The Pope shut himself up in the Vatican, his magnificent palace, declaring that he would never come out until Rome was given back to him. After this he chose to call himself a prisoner, and endeavored to convince the nations that he actually was such. Blinded by pride, prejudice and ambition, he failed to discern the signs of the times, and after eight years of self-imposed confinement, Pius IX died in the Vatican.

THE PRESENT POPE.

The family name of the present Pope is Pecci, but on ascending the papal throne he assumed the name of Leo XIII. He has the reputation of being a man of learning and ability, and an astute politician. Like others before him, he is ever trimming his sails to suit the breeze. It is generally believed in Italy that the Pope is nothing more or less than a spokesman for his party, and that since the restoration of the Jesuits he has come greatly under their influence.

THE JESUITS IN ITALY.

The Jesuits are a sect founded by Loyola in the early part of the sixteenth century. They soon acquired great power and influence, and even the Popes began to fear them, one of whom, Benedict XIV., sought to repress or even to suppress the order. They are unscrupulous in their methods, boldly claiming that the end justifies the means. It is strictly a secret society, whose fundamental principle is absolute obedience to the head of the order. Jesuits are found in all lands, especially in the United States, where they are making unceasing efforts to gain influence in high places, to shape and guide the political life of the nation, and especially to control the education and the press. Their name has become the very synonym of all that is hypocritical and satanic. Woe to the youth who are trained in their schools, and to the nation which falls under their influence.

In Italy the Jesuits have not, perhaps, as much influence as in

some other countries, where they are less known and dreaded. Since the restoration of their rights by the present Pope, their influence has been increasing.

PREACHING THE GOSPEL IN ITALY.

Since 1870 all Italy has been open to the preaching of the gospel, and the present liberal government is constantly rendering invaluable service in maintaining the rights and privileges of missionaries and their fellow-workers.

OPPOSITION.

Very much opposition is encountered, which, in some places, is both bitter and dangerous.

In almost every instance it is the result of priestly influence. Many of the people, especially in the country and smaller towns, are ready and willing to hear the truth, but the priests do everthing in their power to prevent this. In the confessionals they warn their penitents, especially the more ignorant and superstitious among them, against Protestants and Protestantism, assuring them that their doctrines are wicked and ruinous. In many cases absolution and communion are refused to those who attended Protestant meetings, except on condition of confession, penance, and a solemn promise never to repeat the offence. The pulpit is also used, especially in the towns, to accomplish the same purpose—outrageous and wilful misrepresentations being given out as truth. In this way the minds of many are prejudiced and poisoned. Very often Bibles and tracts are taken away from those who have received them, and ruthlessly destroyed by the priest. Sometime a village priest will stir up a crowd of his fanatical followers to assail the preacher or colporteur and drive him from their town, meanwhile threatening death should he return.

OTHER DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED.

Perhaps the greatest impediment to successful evangelization is indifference to spiritual things. The present absorbs the attention of the people, and, in the main, religion has been reduced to a mere form. Ignorance, superstition and prejudice abound, and infidelity and materialism are very common. Very often when good impressions have been made, the fear of public opinion or the criticism of one's immediate circle has a most chilling and withering effect. Ah! how the missionary sometimes longs for that blessed time when the devil shall be bound, and shall no longer go forth to deceive the nations.

ENCOURAGEMENTS.

Public opinion with regard to Protestants and Protestantism is undergoing a gradual change for the better. Hundreds of thou-

sands of Bibles and tracts are silently at work in those homes where the priest has not been able to destroy them. Thousands hear the gospel every year. Prejudice and ignorance are gradually disappearing, and many hearts are being prepared for the truth. There are evidences that we are entering a new era in the evangelization of Italy. The Holy Spirit seems to be dealing with believers and unbelievers as never before. Conversions are more frequent, and a new spirit of consecration and zeal is manifesting itself among Christian workers. More faith is needed to appropriate the "exceeding great and precious promises."

THE MISSIONARIES IN ITALY.

Waldensians, English Wesleyan, American Methodist, English and American Baptists, Free Italian Church, Plymouth Brethren, Unitarian and Reformed Catholic, are all at work in Italy.

About 250 missionaries, pastors, and evangelists are engaged in the work, or in the proportion of one to one hundred and fifty thousand. Multitudes of Italians have not yet heard the Gospel as preached by evangelicals, though all might hear it.

NUMBER OF CHURCH MEMBERS.

According to the latest statistics, about six thousand are connected with the various churches. These however, represent a small part of the results of Christian work. Many evangelicals have died, many have removed to other lands, many are scattered here and there throughout Italy, whose names no longer appear on the church roll. Many have probably accepted the truth who have not made a public profession of their faith. The indirect influence of evangelicals is perhaps the largest part of the work at present, though this can be fully known and estimated by One alone.

MEANS EMPLOYED TO REACH THE PEOPLE.

These are stated preaching of the Gospel, evangelistic work, house-to-house visitation, colportage work, day-schools and Sunday-schools, medical dispensaries, religious newspapers, etc.

ITALIAN PREACHERS.

The Italian preachers compare very favorably with the Americans in some things. Some Italian preachers are men of fine ability and deep piety, and carry on their work in the midst of difficulties and discouragements that would stagger any but a brave heart. Congregations are usually small, and the general public is utterly indifferent to preachers and preaching. This indifference is due in part to the fact that forms and ceremonies have so long been substituted for religious instruction.

CHARACTER OF CHURCH MEMBERS.

While some are carnal and worldly, and others are weak and stumbling, not a few are pious and spiritual, and well versed in the Bible. The average Italian Christian will not compare unfavorably in many things with the average Christian at home. In most cases the circumstances of Italian Christians are very trying, and they greatly need the prayers of God's people. The wordly current is swift and strong, and almost irresistible; the opposition of family and friends is often bitter and constant; old errors and superstitions and prejudices and habits inherited from past generations sometimes drag hard and heavy, and refuse to let go. Besides all this, and more, in times of perplexity and want the priest is ever ready to hold out tempting inducements to all who will renounce their faith and return to his flock and fold.

Occasionally he is successful, and then there is great rejoicing in the Catholic camp. Surely our Italian brethren need the earnest and unceasing prayers of God's people in other lands.

COLPORTAGE WORK.

This is one of the most difficult, and yet one of the most important branches of the work in this country. It is the business of the colporteur to travel from town to town, and from neighborhood to neighborhood, carrying Bibles, Testaments and tracts, speaking to the people in their homes, in their shops, in their fields, by the roadside, or wherever they can be induced to listen. About fifty men are thus employed, but a thousand well qualified men could easily be utilized in this work, and were they full of faith and the Holy Spirit, they would soon create such a stir as has not been witnessed in this land for centuries. Will not missionary societies and individual Christians pray that the needed men, fully equipped and qualified, may be raised up on the field, and thrust by the Spirit into the work.

SUNDAY AND DAY SCHOOLS IN ITALY.

A good beginning has been made in Sunday-school work. A few churches have large and prosperous Sunday-schools, but most of them are small, and this chiefly for two reasons: first, because the churches are usually small, and hence there are few children connected with the congregation; and second, because it is most difficult to gain an influence over children of Catholic families, so as to bring them into the Sunday-school and keep them there. Through the parents the priests control the children. But there is gradual and encouraging progress along this line.

The Free Church, the Wesleyans, the Waldenses, and lately the American Methodists, are paying special attention to day-

school work, and together they have hundreds of children and youths under their instruction. In most of these schools a small tuition fee is required. There are also several orphanages where boys and girls are received and taught various trades.

MEDICAL MISSIONS IN ITALY.

In several of the large cities medical mission work is carried on, and thousands of patients are treated every year. The few who have undertaken this branch feel much encouraged. The object is to furnish the poor with medical attention, medicine and nursing free of charge. Hospitals are very expensive and for this reason evangelicals have only three or four in all Italy. For the present medical missionary work is a partial substitute for the hospital, and deserves the sympathy and aid of the christian public. An earnest effort is also made to evangelize the sick and suffering ones, and not a few who come seeking healing for the body only have found spiritual healing as well.

ENGLISH CHURCHES IN ITALY.

The Episcopal Church (Church of England), and the Free Church of Scotland together, have not less than twenty churches in Italy, and preaching two or three times a week, except during the summer season. In Naples, Leghorne, Spezia, and especially Genoa, there is a very important and encouraging work carried on among English sailors. There are also several French and German churches in Italy, with various branches of Christian work connected with them.

BAPTISTS IN ITALY.

There are seventeen Baptist missionaries in Italy, three of whom are American, and the remainder English.

Rev. W. K. Landels and wife, in Turin; Rev. E. Clarke, Miss Clarke and Miss Smith, in Spezia; Rev. N. H. Shaw and wife and Rev. John H. Eager and wife, in Florence; Rev. George B. Taylor, Rev. James Wall and wife, and Rev. Campbell Wall and wife and Miss Yates, in Rome; Rev. Robert Walker and wife, in Naples.

ITALIAN BAPTISTS.

There are thirty-two Italian Baptist preachers in Italy. There are also several colporteurs and Bible women.

There are about seven hundred Baptist church-members.

The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention began work in Italy in 1870. There are about eighteen Italian preachers connected with their work.

They are stationed in Torre Pellice, San Remo, Cannes (just beyond the Italian border), Milan, Venice, Genoa, Carpi, Florence,

Rome, Naples, Boscoreale (at the foot of Vesuvius), Portici, Bari, Miglionico, Gravina, and in the island of Sardinia, Cagliari, Iglesias and Cuglieri. A station has lately been opened in Palermo, the chief city of Sicily. Besides these centres many other places are visited.

CONCLUSION.

Italy must be evangelized. The field is hard and the difficulties very great; but faith can and will rise above them all. The needs are manifold, but the greatest of all is a band of native evangelists and colporteurs, full of faith and the Holy Spirit. For this let God's people pray without ceasing.

ITALIAN CONVERTS.

The number of converts in Italy is yet comparatively small. Out of a population of nearly thirty millions less than ten thousand are members of our churches. Hundreds of thousands, however, have been brought, more or less, under the influence of the gospel, not a few of whom have doubtless become true believers, though secretly, through fear. Striking proofs of this have come to the knowledge of more than one Christian worker in Italy.

If the value and glory of success are in proportion to the difficulties encountered and overcome, then the winning of a soul for Christ in this papal land deserves special mention, and must give peculiar joy to the angels in heaven. It is like bearding the lion in his den, or attacking the strong man in his favorite castle, or snatching a brand from some great burning.

The process of winning a soul in Italy is generally a long and tedious one, though there are some remarkable exceptions to this rule. A case in point is that of a woman who was not satisfied till she had gone patiently through the New Testament, comparing the Protestant and Catholic translations. Many who hear the gospel begin at once to compare it with their own system of belief. It is not so much a matter of the conscience as of the head. This intellectual process seems necessary in order to reach and awaken the conscience, which in so many cases seems dead, or at least sadly and profoundly dormant. Many seem to pass into the light without any great moral struggle, or even any deep sense or conviction of sin, though both generally come later, and just in proportion as the spiritual life is developed.

The rapid progress of some converts in Bible knowledge and spiritual understanding is most encouraging. In this they will put to shame many of our church-members at home, who have had far higher spiritual privileges. It must be confessed that very many of our hearers, and apparently sincere seekers after the truth, make only a beginning, and then turn back to the great majority who prefer to live in religious indifference, without moral earnestness and stamina. Now and then one finds peculiar zeal and earnestness in a convert. A mountain peasant, converted through the simple reading of the Bible, afterwards became one of the most zealous and successful colporteurs in Italy. A young man, a shoemaker by trade, soon after his conversion manifested remarkable zeal for the salvation of others, practicing great self-denial in order to live at his own charges and give as much time as possible to Christian work. Nothing seemed to dampen his ardor. He died young, a real martyr to the cause of

his Master. Many Italian Christians are accustomed to opposition and persecution, and even the prison and the stake would not cause them to turn aside or renounce their faith in Christ.

Few countries have furnished as many martyrs as Italy, and the blood of the martyrs is often the seed of the Church. What some Italian converts have been willing to endure rather than return to the Church of Rome has often stirred our hearts, quickened our zeal, and strengthened our faith. One good woman, whom I knew well—the only Protestant in her village—was quite ostracized by her friends and neighbors—no one crossing the threshold of her home for years; but in the midst of it all she stood firm, and her faith only grew the brighter. Every Sunday she walked seven miles to hear the gospel in the nearest Protestant church. Her last sickness and death were something never to be forgotten.

Another woman, whose husband was for several years a political exile, came to a knowledge of the truth through the influence of one of our evangelists. She soon began to prove the truth of Paul's words: "You and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." Though a widow, and the only Protestant in her town, and though every possible influence was brought to bear upon her by her relatives and friends and by the priests, including the bishop, she remained true to her convictions and ready and able always to give an answer to those who asked a reason of the hope and faith she entertained, to the enlightenment of some, but to the annoyance and confusion of others. She told me, with great animation, of the visit of the bishop, who remained with her the better part of an entire morning. It is said that afterwards he remarked to a friend: "Well, I shall not have another interview with that Protestant woman, for instead of converting her I am afraid she might convert me." Many of the priests strictly charge their people not to argue with Protestants; but, of course, a bishop is supposed to be impervious. Men who fear the consequences of hearing the truth need never expect to find it—or rather to be found of it.

Pray that every convert in Italy may be a faithful and successful witness for the Master.

JOHN H. EAGER.

Florence, April 1, 1896.

UPS AND DOWNS OF A MISSIONARY.

We all have our ups and downs—moments when we are well and when we are sick; when family affairs and business matters go ill or well, and when the heart is elate and joyful, or depressed and sad. To these variations the missionary is as subject as others, and sings now with the English skylark, rising higher and higher heavenward, and anon in a minor, plaintive key. But besides such ups and downs of a private sort he is subject to them in his *work*, which is indeed the chief and deepest part of his life. This is true of every minister, but more—far more, it would seem—of one who labors in a foreign and not yet evangelized land, where the difficulties are greater, the progress slower, and the alternation easy between success and failure, with joy or grief.

Baxter tells how the apostacy of one whom he had believed to be a son in the gospel hurt him worse than the death of his first-born. But if this be so with a home pastor, who gathers his converts by the score and is held up by the sympathy of a Christian community, how much more for the lonely missionary, who sees only one here and there out of a great multitude accept his message.

Perhaps of all countries Italy is the most apt to raise high hopes, especially in the

new missionary, as well as to dash them suddenly to the ground. Some of our apparently brightest converts, after years of trial before and after baptism, have denied the faith. But then others who seemed to take slight hold of the truth and gave little promise of good, have pleasantly surprised us by holding on with ever-tightening grasp, even though isolated and pursued ever with the persecutions of bigoted Romanists in society and in family life.

Some fields and some evangelists encourage and console, while others distress and dishearten the missionary. It has been said that half of the world is always in shadow; and certainly there is light and shade for a man who, in however lowly sense, has "the care of all the churches." The letters come—this one filling him with anxiety; that one bringing sore perplexity; another, unmitigated sorrow; still another, causing wounded feeling; yet—thank God!—others cheering with news of progress; accounts of rare faith and love and zeal in nascent churches, and bearing words of personal affection, which are a cordial; so that, altogether, the heart of a man of my make and in my place, goes again and again through the whole gamut of emotions—apostolic at least—"as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing."

The same field can bring hope to-day and disappointment to-morrow, or the reverse. A year and a half ago one of our evangelists became interested in a manufacturing town near his station—made repeated visits there, holding conversations with the workmen, distributing large numbers of tracts, which were well received, and selling many copies of the New Testament and of the Gospels. The soil thus examined and prepared, a suitable *locale*, after long search, was secured, and preaching began. Much interest was manifested, and there was every human prospect of a harvest of souls. Then began the machinations of the priests. Windows were repeatedly broken and the premises fouled, but so secretly that the culprits were not detected. This not sufficing, influence was brought to bear upon the proprietor to refuse the *locale*, and, worst of all, the wives were incited to go to the meetings and urge their husbands to come away; and these, thus publicly shamed, at length left, one after another, their heads hanging down, till only the evangelist remained, with his heart bowed yet lower.

Only last Sunday, and here in Rome I was feeling discouraged. True, the Church is perfectly united; there have been several baptisms, chiefly from the Sunday-school, and there has been a goodly increase in giving; but we did not seem to be getting hold of outsiders and adding to the congregation. Lo, and behold! That very night there was an unusual number of strangers present, who listened with serious attention to the excellent gospel sermon of the evangelist, and at the close of the service one of our most assiduous members came up and told of two persons, long interested, who desired to be baptized.

Many, many more cases might be cited, but these are enough to give some hint of the ups and downs of at least one missionary. Doubtless all workers experience such alternations; and it is pleasant to remember that man's extremity is God's opportunity, and that when one is nearest to fainting the drop of cordial will be sure to come.

It would not be human to remain unaffected by the success or failure of our work, but doubtless God wisely mixes them in every lot; and if love and duty be the motives of labor, our hands will never long hang down from discouragement, while if success crown our poor efforts we shall cry "Not unto us, but unto Thy name, O Lord, be the glory."

Brethren at home must not be too much influenced by the ups and downs of mis-

sion work, but must pray and give the same, whether the chariot wheels move fast or slow.

We are all alike under orders to win the world for Christ; and woe to the soldier who relaxes in duty because the battle is sharp and not short.

Rome, Italy, March 24, 1896.

GEORGE B. TAYLOR.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

We give below extracts from cheering, interesting letters received. We wish our people could read more of these communications, coming warm from the hearts of our faithful brethren and sisters who represent us in the foreign fields.

Brother Watkins, of Parras, Mexico, writes a short, pithy letter. Here is one sentence:

I baptized ten in Torreon March 4th. Others are awaiting baptism in two or three different towns.

Miss Sale, our new missionary, writes from Canton, China:

The "Coptic" reached Hong Kong on February 26th, having been delayed by a fog the day previous. Mr. Chambers met me there, and we came on to Canton that night, after a pleasant day in Hong Kong. I received a very warm welcome from Mrs. White, Mrs. Chambers, and Mrs. Simmons, the other members of the Mission being off at the Association. We expect them to-morrow or the next day. I have had several quiet days to unpack and take my bearings. I began in the language the day after I arrived, but have made no impression as yet.

I trust that these first months in China are going to be happy and helpful. I am trying to keep in a receptive, or, at least, a tentative attitude, and trust that I shall not be rash in forming or expressing opinions. I think perhaps one needs to be cautious at first especially.

I am feeling unusually well, and am thankful that the journey was not only safe and pleasant, but beneficial.

Dr. R. H. Graves, our honored Nestor, writes from the same field:

I have been much encouraged by the attention paid by our heathen audiences. There is a marked improvement over the past, not so much in the size of the congregations as in the interest they seem to manifest in the truth. I cannot help hoping that the providences of God are making some impression on this people. While we have still to grieve over the fact that the mass seem hardened, yet many among them seem to be awaking to a sense of the importance of the gospel.

Mrs. Graves and I have settled down to work again, and both of us feel much joy and satisfaction in taking up our former lines of work.

Now that the class is over and the students have gone to the country, I am giving much of my time to my translation work.

From an interesting letter of Brother G. W. Green, Canton, China, we give a few lines:

Mrs. Green and myself had a pleasant visit to Shiu Hing the middle of January. About thirty of the brethren and sisters spent a week in studying the Gospels in the order of Dr. Broadus's Harmony.

The members of the Church will pay their pastor four dollars a month more than last year, thus making some progress towards self-support.

Dr. Chung Wan Man, who is a member of that Church, and dispenses medicine in the chapel three days in the week, of his own accord relinquishes part of his salary for this year. One Bible woman in Canton also relinquishes all her salary, but will continue to work as heretofore.

Brother Thomas McCloy, who is spending his vacation in Louisville, Ky., taking lectures in the Seminary and also at a medical college, writes:

We have just gotten the joyful news that Ng-Chan, in Kwong Sai province, is to be opened up to foreign trade. Ng-Chan is a city on the West river, about two hundred miles from Canton. It is the great centre of trade in the province, and where we have tried to gain a footing for so long a time. This is specially a cause for joy when you remember the struggles we have had to plant the first church in this province, and we Baptists are the only people God has given a foothold in this province with its *eight millions of people*. I believe that God means us now to go in and possess the land; and every place we put down our foot He will give us as a possession. We have long prayed for this time, when we should be able to open up a new centre of work here.

RECEIPTS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

From March 15th to April 15th, 1896.

Alabama.—Oaklawn ch., by L. A. W., \$1; W. C. Bledsoe, Sec.—China, \$26.05; Miss Kelly, \$19; Birmingham Miss'y, \$12.50—\$457.55; Good Hope, by J. F. F., 40c.; Leighton ch., by J. R. N., \$2.55; Easta Bayou ch., by A. A. H., \$2.50; I. R. Conger, \$6; Safford ch., by A. & S., \$8.90; Roanoke ch., by A. S. S., \$9.72; Roanoke ch. S. S., by A. S. S., \$5; Oakman ch., by J. S. W., \$1.21; Trussville ch. S. S., by D. N. T., \$16.88; Providence ch., by L. J., \$4; Dr. J. R. Howell, \$1; Charlton S. S., by W. W. F., \$5; Rev. W. A. Agee and wife, \$2; Oswehee Sunbeams, by J. T. N. (W. W. Lawton), \$6; W. C. Bledsoe, Sec.—China, \$31.16; Miss Kelly, \$23.18; Birmingham Miss'y, \$32.58—\$353.33; Alexander City ch., by T. S. C., \$12.14; Decatur ch., by E. S. A., \$10; Logan ch., by W. H. G., \$2; Opelika ch., by W. M. H., \$25; J. C. Bean, Clerk, \$3.50; Roanoke ch., by A. S. S., \$26.17; Lineville ch., by W. J. D. M., \$19.25; Liberty Corsa ch., by W. L. C., \$10; Notasulga ch., by G. E. B., \$7; Hartsboro ch., by G. E. B., \$6.15; Rev. S. Smitherman, \$1.70. Total, \$1,005.95

Previously reported, \$4,223.92. Total this year, \$5,239.87.

Arkansas.—Nashville ch., by C. W. S., \$5.70; Camden ch., by J. E. L., \$4.15; E. B. Miller, V. P., \$97.60; Howard County Ass'n, by R. D. N., \$2.80; W. H. Paslev, \$4; Monticello ch., by W. W. G., \$20; Hamburg Meeting, by W. W. G., \$6.95; Philadelphia ch., by L. H. K., \$2.95; First ch., Jonesboro, by P. C. B., \$11.15; Philadelphia ch., by P. C. B., \$1; C. W. Strickland, \$11.50; J. H.

Kelly, \$10; L. A. S. First ch., Fort Smith, by P. A. E. (J. J. Taylor), \$50. Total, \$257.80. Previously reported, \$304.66. Total this year, \$1,062.46.

Florida.—Ochivilla ch., by J. H., \$16.70; Mrs. Mary A. Tucker, \$5; Fort Gaines ch. S. S., by J. E. P., \$5; W. N. Chandoin, Treas., \$25; E. Bap S. S., Magdelene, by J. J. H., \$1.18; W. N. Chandoin, Treas., \$40; W. N. Chandoin, Treas., \$25; Braidenton ch., by B. S., \$5.15; Braidenton S. S., by B. S., \$1.75; W. N. Chandoin, Treas., \$30; Pleasant Grove ch., \$3.26. Total, \$153.04.

Previously reported, \$328.77. Total this year, \$486.81.

Georgia.—Pine Forest ch., by B. A. H. (China), \$2.85; Warrenton ch., by C. C. F., \$6; Rev. A. C. Smith, \$1; Sunbeams of Athens ch. by M. R., \$5; Miss Alice C. Hewitt, 50c., Lebanon ch., by W. W. A., \$10; Red Hill ch., by W. M. V., \$1.88; Harris Sunbeams Jewels, by M. B. (Peyton Stephens), \$6.06; M. L. Carswell (African Mission), \$1; Bethel ch., by E. A. J. R., \$3; Rev. J. J. Greer, \$3; Miss M. E. Wright, Treas. (Sears), \$85; County Line ch., by A. J. C., \$4; Beulah ch., by A. J. C., \$1.55; Long Creek S. S., by H. B. C., \$14.77; Long Creek W. M. S., by H. B. C., \$3.65; First ch., Macon, by J. G. D., \$700; First ch. S. S., Augusta, \$7.55; J. C. Gibson, Sec.—W. D. Powell, \$50; Miss McCulloch, \$9.05; China, \$31.85—\$344.61; Ephesus ch., by A. J. C., \$6.90; Hephzibah ch. W. M. S. (Japan), \$1.65; Mrs. Walton H. Wiggs, \$20; Mary E. Wright (Sears),

75; Isabella S. Jordan (Rudd), \$75; a Sister, by H. R. B., \$4; Duffy-street ch., by N. P., \$28.80; Third District Union, Hightown Ass'n (C. W. Pruitt), \$5.10; J. C. Gibson Treas.—China, \$24.10; Mexico, \$18.73; Africa, \$62.1—\$1135.24; L. A. S. First ch., Columbus, by J. B. G., \$2; M. H., Long Cone ch., by J. B. G., \$2.50; W. M. S. (ch. unknown), Cherokee Ass'n, by J. B. G., \$2; Long Branch ch., by G. W. S., \$1.65; Chinese Mission, by M. E. W., \$25; W. F. M. S., Augusta, by M. E. W. (Sears), \$10; Union ch., by J. W. W., \$6.24; Reynolds Missy So., by E. E. S., \$4.35. Total, \$3 106.65.

Previously reported, \$9,256.93. Total this year, \$12,363.78.

Kentucky.—Broadway Baptist Foreigner School, by T. D. O., \$5; Miss Sallie K. Graham, by B. F. H., \$1; W. M. S. Glenn Creek ch., by M. E. \$6; Lancaster S. S., by T. H. C., \$3.50; F. H. Kerfoot, \$6; E. C. Dargan, \$10; Mrs. P. F. Stilling, \$10; Sonora ch., by J. P., \$5; Madison Ave. S. S., by B. F. S., \$5.50; Earnest Mission So., by M. F. W., \$10.05; Lexington, Fifth-street ch. S. S. \$2.18; a Brother, \$25; Earnest Workers Missy's So., by E. H. C., \$30; Pellville S. S., by H. D. B., \$4; Union street S. S.—Bowling Green, by W. R. W., \$5; Russellville S. S., by J. R. L., \$25; L. J. Ball, 50c.; McCFerran Memorial S. S., by R. M. B., \$25; Western Recorder Subscrip's, by H. H. H., \$1; David Fork S. S., by H. W. C., \$3; J. W. Warden, Treas.—Dr. Powell, Mexico, \$14.35; for W. M. W. \$7; South Africa, \$3—\$577.96; Midway ch., by H. S. H., \$53.26. Total, \$813.95

Previously reported, \$6,731.14. Total this year, \$7,545.09.

Louisiana.—G. A. Turner, Treas., \$60; Coliseum ch., by D. G. W., \$27.70; Alexandria S. S., by F. P. B., \$4; Prof. E. L. Scott, \$5; G. A. Turner, Treas., \$55; G. A. Turner, Treas., \$100; Mrs. M. G. Purks and daughters, \$20; Western Recorder offer, by E. M. \$5. Total, \$276.70.

Previously reported \$760.05. Total this year, \$1 036.75.

Mississippi.—Jones Bayou ch., by R. A. C., \$15; Miss Susie Gaines, \$3.90; Little Bahalo ch., by C. T. B., \$10.20; Williamston ch., by W. T. T., \$12.26; D. A. Covington, 95c.; Osyka ch., D. M. R., \$5; Shady Grove ch., by W. E. B., \$1.50; Blue Mountain Sunbeams, \$2.75; Silver Spring ch., \$11.75; Clear Creek ch., by R. G. H., \$7.20; Concord ch., by C. G. E., \$3.05; E. H. Keating, \$8; Crystal Spring ch., by T. N. R., \$97.35; Columbus ch., W. M. S., by W. L. J., \$5; S. L. Hearn, \$10; C. D. Rhymes, \$25; Blue Mountain ch., by W. E. B. \$55; Academy ch., by W. E. B., \$23.12; Ripley ch., by W. E. B., \$2.50; Gayton ch., by W. E. B., \$3.50; Fellowship ch., by W. E. B., \$1; Miss Claude Eager, \$1.25; Edwards ch., by N. J. C., \$26; Holly Springs S. S., \$2; West Point ch., by J. T. S., \$15; Rev. Joel D. Rice, \$20; Miss E. J. Manning, \$5; Mt. Gilead ch., by E. L. S., \$5.50; Ellsville ch., by O. D. B., \$55.45; Eastabuchie ch., by O. D. B., \$11.90; Sandersville ch., by O. D. B., \$5.10; Clinton S. S., by O. D. B., \$1.40; Junior Circle, by O. D. B., \$1.25; B. F. Whitfield, \$1; Mt. Pisgah ch., by G. W., \$13.45; Union ch., by H. S. A., \$3.50; H. S. Archer and wife, \$16.50; T. J. Bailey, Treas., \$100; County Line ch., by J. D. C., \$5; Beulah ch., by J. T. S., \$9.10; First ch., Meridian, by R. H. G., \$25. Total, \$633.43.

Previously reported, \$2,922.82. Total this year, \$3,556.25.

Missouri.—Green Mound ch., by S. C. D., \$2.55; A. E. Rogers, Treas.—W. M. S., \$230.81; Christmas Offering, \$134.29; Brazil, \$15; Miss McMinn, \$3.15; pupil in Emma Young's School, \$12.70; Bible woman, \$1—\$641.70; First ch., St. Joseph S. S., \$12; Pin Oak ch., by E. M., \$8.25. Total, \$664.50.

Previously reported, \$3,041.36. Total this year, \$3,705.86.

Maryland.—Fourth Baptist ch., Baltimore, by F. K. H., \$16.60; W. M. S. of Maryland—Christmas offering, \$26.10; Missy's Day, \$12.25; Miss Claudia White's salary, \$35—\$304.49; Dr. Hiram Woods, \$10; Seventh ch., by L. H. B., \$196.87; First ch., Baltimore, by C. M. P., \$162; Towson S. S., by S. H. M., \$4; J. Harry Tyler (Miss Hayes), \$50. Total, \$743.96.

Previously reported, \$3,548.09. Total this year, \$4 292.05.

North Carolina.—Gabriels Creek ch., by J. N. B., \$1.16; a Sister, \$1.05; Hope Mills Sunbeams, by J. F. B., \$3.05; Missy's So. of J. B. C., by M. J. C., \$2.42; H. C. Bridger, \$25; R. L. Bridger, \$50; Mrs. W. V. F. Liddell, \$5; Missy's S. S., Salem, by J. P. B., \$1.50; Fair Bluff ch., by J. M. B., \$2.35; Fair Bluff S. S., \$1.65; Galeede S. S., by H. C. B., \$7.50; Gastonia S. S., by W. F. M., \$20; Miss Jennie Edwards, by W. S. B., \$5. Total, \$125.63.

Previously reported, \$3,235.32. Total this year, \$3,361.

Western North Carolina.—Western North Carolina Convent'n, by J. M. S. (Miss Price) \$28.46; J. M. Stoner, Treas., \$21.72. Total, \$50.18.

Previously reported, \$526.40. Total this year, \$576.58.

South Carolina.—Rev. J. R. Edwards, \$2; Hebron ch., by C. C. V., \$1.80; Island Home ch., by A. G., \$2; Providence ch., by H. M., \$2; Hickory Grove S. S., by J. W. Z., \$1.60; Pendleton-street S. S. (Greenville), \$10; Padgett's Creek ch., \$26.80; Holly Spring ch., \$8; Lebanon ch. B. Y. P. U. (W. W. Lawton), \$5; Ebenezer ch. (China), \$2; Central ch., by C. C. F., \$1.77; Mrs. E. B. Vass, by J. L. V., \$5; Mrs. P. S. Quattlebaum, by J. L. V., \$1; Berear ch., by D. D. G., \$11.90; Goucher Creek ch., by M. W. G., \$10.35; Lynchburg ch., by J. A. H., \$2; Swansea ch., by C. H. C., \$2; Sulphur Springs ch., by W. P. O., \$3.02; New Pisgah ch., by R. B. M., \$1.38; Dean Swamp ch., by D. H. C., \$3.11; Enon ch., by D. S., \$2.20; Ridge Spring ch., by C. D. W., \$12; Friendship No. 1, by Z. G. P., \$4.50; Little Sunbeams, Piedmont ch., \$30; Hormay ch., by R. H. F., \$5.60; Cross-roads ch., by J. F. S., \$5.40; Bethany ch., by W. H. Y., \$5; Darien ch., by W. W. H., \$5.50; Blackstock ch., by T. B. M., \$7.30; Mrs. C. P. Shurley, by J. H. Y., \$5; Zion Hill ch., by J. H. W., \$1.10; Mrs. L. M. Douglas, by W. A. H., \$25; Woodward ch., by W. A. H., \$17; Pleasant Hill ch., by A. S. B., \$2.51; Enoree ch., by A. S. B., 61c; Abners Creek ch., by L. C. E., \$14.30; Southern Union ch., by L. C. E., \$30.40; J. S. Ezell, by L. C. E., \$1; Sumter ch., by C. C. B., \$13.75; Cedar Grove ch., by W. D. M., \$2; Harpers ch., by W. D. M., \$1.18; Bethany ch., by W. D. M., \$1.75; Bloomingdale ch., by W. D. M., \$3; Black Mingo ch., by W. D. M., \$2.50; Union No. 2, Fairfield Ass'n, by J. H., \$26.75; Healing Springs ch., by J. J. R., \$3; North Union of Spartanburg Ass'n, by Z. G. P., \$76.82; Yorkville ch., by S. M. G., \$12; Antioch ch., by H. J. C., \$6.50; Piedmont ch., by W. N. T., \$5.84; Townsville S. S., by W. E. F., \$40.16; Congaree ch., \$2.70; Congaree S. S., \$2.55; J. E. Herring, \$7.50; Union Meeting, Second Division, Edisto Ass'n, by R. M. D., \$3.85; Union No. 2, Orangeburg Ass'n, by W. H. G., \$10; Mt. Moriah ch., by J. R. M., \$7; Upper Marian Union, by J. G. W., \$59.50; Pleasant Grove F. M. S., by D. P. M., \$1.28; Clearmont ch., by J. D. W., \$3.55; Albert Eddins, Treas., Chester Ass'n, \$5; Bennettsville S. S., by J. P. C., \$1.21; Second Division, Edgefield Ass'n, by S. E. T., \$9.53; Union ch., by J. H. M., \$1.67; Beavertam Ass'n, by J. W. S., \$16.43; Fairview S. S., by G. S., \$1.25; Welcome ch., by S. L. E., \$15; Bold Spring ch., \$6; Central Committee W.

M. S., by Mrs. J. S.—Mary Harley, \$3.01; Sunbeam Missy, \$5.36; H. P. McCormick, \$1.52; Building fund for W. W. L., \$5; Bibles in Mexico, \$1; China, \$5; Canton, \$3.50; Japan, \$1.75—\$365.54; \$8.90; Bookhart, \$5; Fort Lawn ch., by D. H. J., \$5.90; J. H. Jenkins, Treas. (W. W. Lawton), \$15.31; Wards ch., by J. H. P., \$6; First Division, Barnwell Ass'n, by H. P. A., \$1.93; Chicks Spring S. S., by A. B., \$5; Springfield ch. by J. B. S., \$7.50; Hartville ch., by J. M. L., \$6.76; Hartville S. S., by J. M. L., \$5.32; New Allendale ch., by J. F. M., \$6.25; Smyrna ch., by J. F. M., \$3; Marlboro Union by T. H. B., \$73.78; Beaver Dam, by T. H. B., \$7.22; Hunters Chapel ch., by W. D. R., \$1.54; Mt. Enal ch., by L. M. J., \$2.45; Republican ch., by R. H. M., \$3.45; Cheraw ch., by A. J. E., \$13; Mt. Zion ch., by J. H. D., \$13.25; Brushby Fork ch., by J. W. W., \$11; Horeb ch., by D. H. C., \$2.11; Mary Harley Missy's So., Horeb ch., by D. H. C., \$2.63; Four Holes ch., by T. E. R., \$8.65; Four Holes S. S., by T. E. R., \$2.50; Salem ch., by R. G. A. J., \$2; Conway ch., by E. W. N., \$12.30; First ch., Spartanburg, by W. T. D., \$75; First ch., Gaffney, by L. C. B., \$6.63; First ch., Gaffney S. S., by L. C. B., \$7.50; Standing Spring S. S., by B. C., \$1.50; Rabun Creek ch., by C. H. R., \$3.40; Poplar Spring ch., by C. H. R., \$2.13; Highland Home ch., by C. H. R., \$4.07; Laurens ch., by C. H. R., \$6.50; Laurens S. S., by C. H. R., \$29.66; Reedy Branch ch., by T. P. L., 67c; Wellford ch., by J. W. J., \$16.33; Rutherford street ch., Greenville, by R. C. G., \$14.37; Blackville ch., by W. A. S., \$25.48; Blackville S. S., by W. A. G., \$5.87; Swift Creek ch., by R. L. B., \$30; Mt. Hermon ch., by L. H. B., \$1.73; Bethel ch., by J. M. C., \$4.25; a Brother, \$5; Marion Union, lower section Piedmont Ass'n, \$12.05; Newberry ch., \$31.07; Newberry ch. S. S., \$3.21; Campbell, by A. C. W., \$9.67; Lawtonville ch., by M. P. L. (W. W. Lawton), \$31.18; Lower Union, Lexington Ass'n, by C. H. C., \$6.08; Wassamasaw ch., by W. M. S., \$2; Tabernacle ch., by J. C. C., \$8; Stephen Crosby Treas., \$3; Edgefield ch., by A. S., \$50; Woodfin ch., by M. J. W., \$1.12; T. M. Bailey, Cor. Sec., \$55.23; Lake Swamp ch., by C. A. J., \$1.40; Charles A. Smith, \$5; Eoenezer ch., by B. J. H., \$18.50; White Pond ch. J. W. B., \$2.72; Bennettsville ch., \$27.50; W. L. Jones, by R. W. S., \$4.92; Beaverdam ch., by D. L. V., \$1.90; Covonaco ch., by A. C. C., \$2.10; Union, Third Division, Edgefield Ass'n, by J. W. A., \$5.16; Switzer ch., by J. P. G., \$10; Corinth ch., by J. S. H., \$10; E. R. Roberts, \$5; Beulah ch., by J. E. Mc., \$5; Beulah S. S., by J. E. M., \$2.20; Cherokee Springs ch., by W. P. S., \$1.50; Union ch., \$7; Elloree ch. A. Mc. A. P. (Japan New Missions), \$10; Clover ch., by F. G. M., \$6.31; Union Meeting, Second Division, Aiken Ass'n, by W. H. K., \$7.10; Montmorenci ch., by W. H. K., \$2.20; China Springs, by W. H. K., \$1.33; Shilo' ch., by W. H. K., \$2.33; Talatha ch., by W. H. K., 85c; Blackville ch., by A. B., \$2.50; W. M. S., Blackville ch., by A. B., \$2; Long Branch ch., by T. P. L. (Lawton), \$1.25; Seven Pines ch., by T. P. D. (Lawton), \$1.85; Beaver Creek ch., by W. S. D., \$5; Midway ch., by G. H. B., \$5; Mt. Carmel ch., by G. H. B., \$1.75; Thos. M. Lyles, \$5; Citadel Sq. ch., by T. P. S., \$10; Clinton ch., by R. L. B., \$16; Salem S. S., by R. G. A. J., \$1.55; Trough Shoal ch., by A. B. S., \$30.84. Total, \$1,905.27.
Previously reported, \$6,270.70. Total this year, \$8,175.97.

Tennessee.—Surgoinville ch., by J. P., \$1.50; W. W. Woodcock, Treas.—Xmas off'g, China, \$53.42—\$44.87; Will D. Upshaw, \$7; Young Smith, by L. D. E. (Mrs. Maynard), \$181.59; Jonesboro ch., by T. J. P., \$3.71; Missy's So., Eagleville, by J. C. W., \$13; from 'Recorder', by W. L. B., \$6; Union ch. by S. E. H., \$2; North Edgefield ch., by R. R. J., \$20.95; Union Grove ch., by W. D. D., \$2.15; Elder J. R. Stinson, \$1.30. Total, \$687.07.
Previously reported, \$5,439.11. Total this year, \$6,126.18.

Texas.—Fairmont ch., by C. H. K., \$1.75; Antioch ch., by C. H. K., \$1; Rev. Robert Moore, from his two churches, \$2; Abilene ch., W. M. S., by W. Y., \$5.50; Mrs. Bond and Mrs. M. J. Nelson, \$2.50; White Mound ch., by W. B. L., \$10; Rev. J. C. Bounds, by J. C. B., \$1; T. G. Simpson, by J. C. B., \$1; W. M. S., Second ch., Houston, \$3.15; Little Hope ch., by H. H. K., \$1.75; Austin ch., by A. H. M., \$5.50; Archer City S. S., by H. A. G., \$1.05; Macedonia ch., by H. Y. L., \$8; Navasota River Ass'n, by A. F. F., \$8.15. Total, \$52.65.

Previously reported, \$5,226.63. Total this year, \$5,279.28.

Virginia.—Readville ch. W. M. S., \$9; Middle District Ass'n (Rudd chapel, \$9; Norvell Ryland, Treas., \$1,000; G. J. Price, \$1; six little children in Petersburg, by E. W. A. (China), \$1; Mrs. W. H. Peyton, \$5; Mrs. H. C. Bogert, \$5; J. H. Rangeley, \$1; Clarks Neck S. S., by R. S. B., \$1.41; Norvell Ryland, Treas., \$1,000; a friend, Salem, \$2; Rev. J. T. Betts, \$7.50. Total, \$2,041.91.
Previously reported, \$10,268.85. Total this year, \$12,310.76.

West Virginia.—Miss H. H. Lamb, \$5; Mrs. A. O. Palmer, \$2. Total, \$7.
Previously reported, \$1. Total this year, \$8.

District of Columbia.—Maryland Ave. ch., by E. S., \$5; two brethren of e-Street ch., Washington, by F. A. R., \$10; Miss Emma B. Veatman's S. S., class of First ch., \$23.10; Mrs. O. H. Hollan, \$5. Total, \$43.10.

Previously reported, \$1,287.81. Total this year, \$1,330.91.

Oklahoma.—Oklahoma Ass'n, by G. T. J., \$20. Previously reported, \$5.75. Total this year, \$25.75.

Indian Territory.—W. L. Wright, Treas., \$129.50.
Previously reported, \$87.10. Total this year, \$216.60.

Indiana.—Miss B. P. Kinsey, \$2.

Mexico.—Rev. J. G. Chastain, \$18.50; A. C. Watkins, Treas. (Brazilian Mission), \$33.33; Miss Ida Hayes, \$40; H. P. McCormick, \$10. Total, \$101.83.
Previously reported, \$273.46. Total this year, \$375.29.

American Baptist Publishing Society, \$300.

Aggregate, \$13,127.37. Previously reported, \$65,011.54. Total this year, \$78,138.91.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Please notify if receipts are not promptly received for contributions as they are always promptly sent.

Home Department.

DIAZ IN JAIL.

On the afternoon of April 16th a telegram from Havana was brought to the Home Mission Rooms containing these words:

“DIAZ IN JAIL—*Porta.*”

This startling intelligence brings the Board face to face with the gravest difficulty of its history. Diaz has been in jail before, but then the charges against him were trivial. If he had been found guilty the penalty would not have involved life or liberty. Then there was profound peace upon the island, and partizanism did not torture into crimes the careless words of familiar conversation, or base a charge of treason upon the loose expressions found in a letter to a friend.

Widely different are the conditions prevailing now. The Spanish authority in Cuba is shaken to its foundation. Cuban men and women are fighting against a tyranny more dreadful to them than death, and for liberty dearer to them than life.

The Spaniards have repudiated their ablest commander because of his justice and his moderation, and have supplied his place by the most bloodthirsty and cruel of all the Spanish leaders. Suspicion is tantamount to conviction of crime. The horrors of Spanish prisons are augmented a hundred fold by the multitudes of their diseased, vermin-infested, half-starved inmates. Justice, always delayed in Spanish courts, has fled the land, and nothing but the strong arm of foreign power can preserve even citizens of other countries from the passion-prompted sentences of its partizan tribunals. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the life of our Brother Diaz is in great jeopardy. Not simply from the danger of conviction for the alleged offence, but from the great danger of the protracted and torturing imprisonment he may be called to endure.

The Board will not stop to vindicate its actions in regard to its missionaries in Cuba further than to say that it has taken every possible precaution for their safety. Assured that Diaz was in more danger than any of the others, the Board has been especially solicitous for him, and could he have acted upon the suggestions made him, he would not have remained within the limits of Spanish authority. But he could not. He no doubt felt it to be his duty to see the others safely off the island before he should go. Their departure was delayed by some unknown cause. O'Halloran, the last

to leave, sailed from Havana Wednesday, the 15th. That night, Diaz was arrested. In the last letter received from him he said he was perfecting arrangements for the care of our property in his absence. The evidence before us points to the conclusion that it was his desire for the safety of others, and his fidelity to the trust committed to him by the Board that induced the delay that resulted in his arrest.

For months communication with our missionaries has been difficult and hazardous. They were objects of suspicion because of their religious faith and practice. It is understood that all letters were subject to inspection at the Havana post-office. Under the prevailing conditions the most innocent expression relating to our mission work in the excited minds of the Spanish authorities might be transformed into words indicating rebellion and treason. Every letter we sent to Havana might engender suspicions that would result in the imprisonment of our missionaries, and every letter they sent to us might be fraught with similar consequences. Hence we do not know why Diaz delayed so long in Havana. We only know our brother is in prison, and we must help him.

Arrangements must be made to care for him while in prison. He will not dare to eat or drink anything furnished by the prison authorities. He must have such comforts as the common jails of Havana do not contain. His health suffered greatly from his last imprisonment, though it was brief. Protracted imprisonment now will endanger his life.

It was the horror of a Burman prison that broke down the health of Judson, and brought him so near the grave. It was the dungeon in which Herod confined John the Baptist that staggered the faith of the forerunner, and led him who in triumphant tones cried, "Behold the Lamb of God!" to inquire in timid and doubting accent, "Art thou he that should come, or look we for another?" and Diaz is flesh and blood as were they. He will need expressions of sympathy from all his brethren who have assigned him to that post of duty and of danger. He has honored them by a life of devotion to their cause surpassed by none among the living or the dead.

Let every Baptist of the South, man, woman or child, be among those of whom Diaz can say, "I was sick and in prison and ye ministered unto me." Let there not be one who shall fail to honor himself by some token of sympathy and love to him with whom God has honored our denomination.

We are tempted to ask if any will not respond to the needs of such a man, what suffering, what distress can move his heart, or what calamity smiting the soul of a child of God would draw forth from one so callous evidence that the love of God dwells in him?

The imprisonment of Brother Diaz will impose unlooked for expenses on the Board. Not only must he be cared for, but so must his family. The expenses of a trial which Spanish courts well know how to make exceeding burdensome. Attorney's services—and he must have the best—will not be small. Nothing must be spared that will mitigate the suffering or spare the life of our brother. Money is valueless when counted against the life of such a man. We ask that every church connected with the Southern Baptist Convention take immediately a special collection for this purpose. In this general movement of our people there is a strong element of safety to our brother. It will strengthen him. It will cheer his prison days. It will enable him to resist disease and maintain his vital power.

If Havana could know that ten thousand Baptist churches by one concerted movement swelled a fund for Diaz's protection and freedom, how that would hold back the threatened blow and change the purpose to destroy! How it would affect our authorities at home to know that a million and a half of Baptists were in earnest in their efforts to save a man so honored of God—a star of the first magnitude among the missionary heroes of the world!

What influence and power it would give them for all coming time to protect and promote the missionaries of their faith in every land and on every shore. Diaz's imprisonment is God's call to the churches of the South to arise and shake off the dust of sloth and act for his deliverance, for God's cause and for their own honor, in a manner worthy of themselves, worthy of the King they adore and of the Gospel which they must give to all the nations.

What though ten times that which is needed for these purposes should be contributed by our churches? It would be but a garnered supply from which to equip other soldiers of the Cross who will reinforce God's conquering host on that island.

We are committed to this work. Our hands are upon the plow; we cannot look back. Diaz may perish in prison or die by the hands of the executioner, but Cuba must be spiritually free. The mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

I. T. TICHENOR.

ATLANTA, GA., April 23, 1896.

Information of Bro. Diaz's liberation received this morning.

Prayer can do more for gold than gold can do for prayer. And certainly if men prayed more they would give more. Prayer can hardly soar to the heavens for God's blessing on the heathen without searching the pockets of the petitioners by the way.—*The Missionary Intelligencer*.

"THAT GLORY MAY DWELL IN OUR LAND."

Rev. Malcombe MacGregor preached an exceptionally fine sermon yesterday at the Jackson Hill Baptist church from the text as found in Psalms 85 : 9, "That glory may dwell in our land." It was a plea for a higher order of patriotism and increased efforts in mission work.

In opening his sermon Mr. MacGregor spoke of the Jews in olden times, among whom piety and patriotism were very thoroughly commingled, their religion being patriotic and their patriotism religious. American patriotism, he said, from the very start has been of a very decided and practical type, as witnessed by the revolutionary and civil wars, and as indicated by American prose and poetry. What is especially needed, however, is that in this country patriotism shall become more imbued with Christian principles, and that our Christianity shall become, in the highest sense, more patriotic. By all means we should cultivate home missions for the improvement of our own land.

THE GLORY OF OUR LAND.

Mr. MacGregor spoke of the vastness and extent of our land and its resources, and dwelt on the importance of missionary work among its people.

"Our land," said he, "is eighteen times as large as Spain, thirty-one times as large as Italy, sixty times as large as England and Wales together. Weld into one, Great Britain and Ireland, France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Denmark and Greece, and they would cover scarcely one-third of the territory of the United States. The United States soil is capable of supporting more than 1,000,000,000 people. One-half of the gold and silver supply of the world is now obtained here; iron is mined to-day in twenty-three of our States, and our coal supply is simply inexhaustible. What a population our land is destined to bear! How important that this country should speedily become thoroughly evangelized!"

In speaking of the population of this country, Mr. MacGregor said: "The rapidly increasing population of our land renders home missionary enterprise imperative. During the ninety years previous to 1880, 10,000,000 foreigners came to settle in the United States. Since 1880 this country has been peacefully invaded by an army of foreigners four times as great as that of the Goths and Vandals that devastated Southern Europe and broke the power of Rome. Most of the multitudes thus coming to us are destitute of acquaintance and sympathy with our institutions and government, and are destitute of any knowledge or experience of the gospel of

Christ and its saving benefits. There are innumerable heathens at our very doors. We must give them the gospel. The unrest of the Old World and its over-population will increase immigration in the future. There is much spiritual destitution and fatal ignorance in all parts of our land, and home missionary enterprise, a hundred fold greater than we have exercised hitherto, is needed."

THE DANGERS THAT THREATEN.

Mr. MacGregor spoke of the peculiar perils which are threatening this land, among them being a too exclusive devotion to material gain, too great haste to become rich at all hazards, intemperance, which has become a mighty evil to health, morals, the family, business and political life, monopoly on the one hand, spoliation on the other, the greed of the rich and the envy of the poor, and nothing but the gospel of Christ can meet and overcome these mighty agents for evil. He spoke of the wonderful possibilities of this land as a field for missionary effort, and dwelt on the one great thing to be desired, "That glory may dwell in our land"; the glory of the truth, the glory of divine salvation, and the glory of world-wide Christian usefulness.

In closing Mr. MacGregor made a strong presentation of the work being done by the Baptists, and urged upon his members the necessity of increased activity in the cause of missions, and especially home missions.—*The Atlanta Journal*.

HON. JOHN C. SCARBOROUGH ON CO-OPERATIVE WORK IN NORTH CAROLINA.

We have been furnished with a copy of a letter recently written by Hon. John C. Scarborough, Superintendent of Education for North Carolina, to Rev. H. L. Morehouse, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, New York.

Mr. Scarborough is a distinguished citizen and prominent Baptist. He has been identified with Baptist interests as well as with the educational interests of North Carolina for many years. We are gratified to be able to furnish the readers of THE JOURNAL some extracts from his excellent letter. It may be proper to explain that Brother Brown, to whom he refers, is the recently employed general missionary under the co-operative plan in North Carolina.

"I know *Brother Brown*. He is one of finest workers and one of the best men among the colored Baptists of the State. He is a fine citizen, a good man, a good preacher and pastor, a first-class teacher and one of the best managers of a crowd of colored people I have seen among them. He has tact, character to command

respect, has practical and sensible views. Tells them the truth and does not make them mad. Knows how to get hold of men who have had very limited opportunities and how to encourage them and lift them up to better views and to do better work. He is an all-round good man. He is not a narrow schemer for himself, but a wise and broad planner for his people's good and for the Master's kingdom and glory.

"Out of this Institute work are to come results long prayed for by our white pastors and people. The lifting of colored Baptists to a higher and better home life, church life, intellectual life, better living and to self development as men and women. To quicken desire for better home surroundings and better homes, for higher Christian education and consequent better citizenship. It will result in practical and more effective missionary work to be done by them among themselves at home, and enlarge their notions as to their mission to the world. It will better equip them for the aid they are to give the Baptists North and South in the problem to be worked out, "What are they to be," and "What can we help them to be?" I cannot, you cannot, enumerate all the possible and probable good it will bring to them as a people, if patiently, wisely and well we shall do this work, they helping us in it, or, the rather, we helping *them* in it.

"Then, too, the *benefits* will be large and many in number, which will come to *our white Baptists in the South* from this work. You, brethren at the North, have helped to open the door for our usefulness to the Negro at our very doors. Our white Baptist brethren are rejoiced at the prospects as they open. Many of us have prayed for years for an open door, that we might go in and help them. It will enlarge our views of the capacity of the Negro. It will enlarge and broaden our sympathies for him, and enable us to do, unselfishly, Christian work for him with stronger and better hope for him as a man and a brother in Christ. It will bring us to see that we can aid in the work of lifting him up to privileges and opportunities which, heretofore perhaps, he has not dreamed of and we have not thought possible. It will help us to see clearly the necessity of lifting him up, for if *he* is not lifted up he will pull *us* down. It will show us more clearly the necessity of Christian citizenship in order to realize somewhat the ideal of the American system of government. It will revivify and renew afresh our kindly feelings for the race, which in our time of sorest trial and greatest hardship and bitter anxiety, stood in its place, stormy though it was, and waited patiently for delivery to come as the result of the conflict then being waged. It will place them and us in a better position to find the good in each other, and to cultivate that, rather than to magnify the faults of each other. It will do all this, and much

more, for the white and black men of the South. Then, too, it will help you men of the North to know more about the white men of the South in our better qualities—specially more about the white Baptist church-members, and our willingness and desire to help the colored people to better living and to a higher plane of church life and work. But I need not multiply words. Our white people have not put their hands to a work of the churches in years which promises more for the outlay. The universal sentiment with us is that the Lord is in the work; that it is for His glory and for humanity. We are thankful for the privilege of helping in it.”

REPORT OF MOTHERS' MEETINGS AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS OF
COLORED WOMEN AND CHILDREN,

HELD IN BALTIMORE MAY, 1895—MAY, 1896.

This work has gone steadily forward during the year with only one change. The school at Faith Chapel was given up owing to the fact of a strong colored Methodist church in the neighborhood reaping largely the results of our labors. There was no permanent pastor at Faith Chapel, and as the membership was weak, they did not seem able to take advantage of this opportunity for the enlargement of their work, so, after mature deliberation, it was decided to close that school and to accede to a request of Rev. J. C. Allen to organize a school at his church. Mr. Allen for two years had been very anxious for the establishment of a Mothers' Meeting and Industrial School there, but a lack of workers prevented. Pastors of several colored churches throughout Maryland have during the year earnestly requested the president of the Home Mission Society of Maryland to try and organize schools in connection with their churches, but for the reason given above it has not yet been possible.

The entire expense for carrying on four schools has been \$43.57. As will be seen from the reports of the various schools, the children have been trained to give, and their offerings have largely aided to support the little ones in the Colored Orphanage.

* * * * *

In submitting the report of the work done among the colored people in Baltimore, we repeat what has previously been said, that no missionaries are employed to do this work, ladies from different white churches giving their time and labor gratuitously. In some slight measure we realize that God is giving us an opportunity to do Foreign Mission work at home and in this way give the Gospel to the Africans in our midst.

Submitted by ANNIE W. ARMSTRONG,
President W. B. H. M. Society of Maryland.

[The separate reports of the four schools and one orphanage each contain information in detail of interest, showing the care and thoroughness with which this work is conducted in its diversified forms. The Kindergarten feature in these schools is a work of importance. The aggregate average attendance for the four schools is shown to be 354, and the aggregate number of garments made 312. In the orphanage there are at present 31 children, ranging in age from 1 to 14 years—boys and girls. The largest number cared for at any one time was 42. Suitable religious instruction and worship is conducted in connection with the schools, and with the orphanage.—ED.]

MISS BUHLMAIER'S WORK IN BALTIMORE.

The work of Miss Buhlmaier among the Germans and other immigrants in Baltimore, is a chapter of consecrated devotion which appeals to the interest of every American Christian.

Her annual report for the year just closed is so thrilling and fruitful that we would be glad if we had space to publish it in full. We are sure no reader of *THE JOURNAL* will fail to read the following rather extensive extracts from this admirable report:

“MY DEAR MISS ARMSTRONG,—In looking back over the year's work I find great cause to praise the Lord, who has enabled me to do what would have been utterly impossible, had it not been for His ever present help in my every time of need.

“Since my sickness last summer I had labored under great physical weakness, but ‘the Lord was my strength,’ enabling me day by day to perform the manifold duties.

“Please accept, in the following, my report for the past year: Weeks of labor, 46; weeks sick, 6; visits and calls made, 904; literature distributed, 7,518 pages; Bibles distributed, 8; addresses made, 14; visited sewing school, 89 times; scholars in attendance, about 275; average attendance, 175; collections received so far, \$30.33; paid in the treasury of the Southern Baptist Convention, \$16.96; to immigrant pier, 33 times; literature distributed there, 26,336 pages; New Testaments distributed there, 196; aid given, 32 times; thereby benefiting 80 persons; amount expended \$8.66.

“It is impossible to give in figures all the work that is done, so while the figures may not show it, yet I can truthfully say I have been kept very busy. We have endeavored to sow the good seed at all times; on the street to the passers-by, in the street-cars, and in the homes of the people; and surely the Lord of the harvest will see to it that it will spring up and bear fruit in His own good time.

“My heart was often gladdened when on visiting the homes we were received as a dear, long-looked-for friend, and many earnest words and fervent prayers were offered up on such occasions.

“The sewing schools continue to be as a door through which it is easy to reach the mothers and children, and confidence is given us in almost every instance. In time of sickness or adversities they quickly turn to us, and our advice is much valued. In the sewing schools we have tried to impress the truth into the young hearts, teaching them the Scriptures and the beautiful Gospel Hymns.

“The school in West Baltimore, which was opened in the early fall is progressing. Much better work could be done, however, if we had more steady teachers. It is surprising to see how the classes having a faithful teacher have grown. Work in this locality seems especially hard. Being near the city limits, the children are much left to themselves and their own sweet will, and this is felt in the school, where they show marked irreverence and inattention. Our patience was often taxed, and at times we thought we must give up, but when we were repeatedly assured by those who have seen and heard that a marked improvement in every way is visible, we have thanked the Lord and taken courage. I hope and pray the time is not far distant when we shall have a German mission in this section.”

— ‘The reapers are few, and the work is great,
And much will be lost should the harvest wait.’

THE IMMIGRANT WORK.

“This work endears itself more and more to my heart. During the past year we have met at the landing, 10,212 immigrants; almost 2,000 more than the year before. Indications point to large increase in immigration this year, making the work more and more important. But even as it is now, much good is done which would be left undone had the Board not taken up this work.”

The report illustrates this feature of work by reciting a number of touching incidents where the poor, lonely and helpless immigrants have been advised, comforted and helped.

One instance: A young German was found at the pier with an infant ten days of age. The young mother had died at the time of the birth of the child on board the ship and was buried at sea. The father, alone, inexperienced and destitute, with his precious charge, was destined for South Bend, Ind., where he had relatives. After being assisted in procuring exchange he had only seventy-two cents. Of this sum thirty cents had to be expended in a telegram. He was supplied with condensed milk, given instructions in regard to the care of the child, furnished with additional change and other necessities—religious instructions and literature not being omitted.

Another case: A mother with six children. Their destination is Minnesota. The father is there awaiting them. They have nothing to eat, and when asked if they do not know it is a long journey to undertake without anything to eat, the mother replies, "Oh yes, but we have no money; we can't buy anything." Miss Buhlmaier buys food and takes it to them on the train just before their departure. The mother weeps, the children laugh for joy while they grasp the hands of a stranger friend in a far stranger land to kiss them again and again. Still another instance, the recital of which we give in Miss Buhlmaier's own language.

"After the passengers have already taken to the train I jump upon it to pass through to take a final look to make sure no one was neglected. I see a family who had escaped my notice until now. I go up to them asking several questions. Seeing a small child I asked, "Have you any milk for him?" "No, dear lady, we have looked all around but could get none to buy." "I'll get you some," and quickly I turn, *running* to the nearest store for fear the train will pull out before my return. Coming back just in time; the milk is delivered, the parents rejoice, and before they find words to express their gratitude I bid them God-speed, get off the train and off they go. Will they be likely to forget the "God-send" in the last remaining moments?

"Several letters were received from persons receiving help, in which they again thanked for it, and the words spoken to them.

"The literature, and especially the New Testaments, are gladly received. Often can we see those having received a copy, amid all the noise and turmoil, fix their eyes and mind on the precious book and its contents. Whenever possible, in cases where we are especially moved and impressed, we get the address and notify the pastor, or some one of that place to try and look after them. But often my heart is heavy when I find that there is no German church of our faith in the parts some of these people go to."

The report delineates the important work among those who remain in Baltimore. How they are helped, advised and kept up with and drawn into the Sunday-schools, the industrial schools, and brought under the influence of the Gospel.

The report closes with the following paragraph:

"Thus we see while progress is naturally slow, yet the outlook is hopeful. Hoping to be enabled to labor in the Lord's vineyard, and asking to be remembered at the mercy seat, I remain,

Yours 'In His name,'

M. BUHLMAIER."

Missions have progressed slowly abroad because piety and prayer have been shallow at home.

HOME MISSIONS.

[THE RELIGIOUS HERALD.]

Let us have a universal rally to our Home Mission Board. Let this Board come to the Convention in May, not only, as usual, with a report of great achievements made all over the vast fields in which its laborers toil, but with all obligations met and discharged, leaving a handsome balance to its credit. All churches, societies, and individuals co-operating in the great work of home evangelization should promptly forward to the treasurer increased contributions before the last day of April. The time is short, and we should attend to this important matter at once.

I have always been an earnest, though a feeble, advocate of State and home mission work. Communities, States, nations, that are thoroughly permeated with the principles of the gospel are the strongest, the most elevated and most progressive. They are the best, as well as the "best off" in every sense and from every point of view. People impressed with the great truths that God has revealed to men do most for their own home and community, most for other lands and nations, and most to lift humanity everywhere to higher planes of living, and nobler and holier aims and efforts. If this great nation is to become the leading power and central light of this great world, and permanently hold such exalted eminence, the grand and glorious distinction will be attained only by the general prevalence of revealed truth and the general recognition of divine precept and principle. Vast military armaments by land and by sea may give us temporary prowess, but in the future our race will never tolerate and respect and honor a people who, by virtue of the choicest location in the world, blessed with inexhaustible internal resources and unequalled natural surroundings, enjoys unprecedented advantages, shall use these advantages to gratify the spirit of greed and self-aggrandizement. Such has been true of all great nations in the past, but the world has now reached a moral status which demands other standards of true greatness and successful leadership. To hold the foremost place, we must make ourselves worthy of such distinction. Numbers, wealth, and martial prowess will never secure to us, or to any people, the undivided respect and love of mankind. These have always, in the world's history, been made the means of domination and oppression of other and feebler tribes and nations. To bring into requisition physical brute force or military prowess to accomplish the ends of unhallowed greed and ambition, in this day would call down the execration and condemnation of all civilized governments. Moral and philanthropic principles, aims and ends, must distinguish both individuals and nations to make them truly great

and give to them the highest places. The moral and Christian virtues exhibited in the personal characters of our citizens, in all relations and on every field, at home and abroad, will command the respect and admiration of all men, of every clime and country. We cannot claim a superior religion, and get the free-thinking world to admit the validity of such a claim, while the lives of those who make such pretensions are inconsistent with its fundamental principles and precepts, and deny in toto its purity and its power. And what is true of the citizen will find expression in the legislation of the country. Its dealings with other nationalities on great questions of commerce and territorial limitations, as well as our local statutes, reflect the moral type of the constituency; for legislation is but the general consensus of private opinion and demand. High moral tone, in both individual and governmental life and action, lifts a people to the highest prominence and draws all hearts to them, the world over. All home mission work looks to these ends. The principles and precepts of the Bible, universally observed, produce such results, and it is the glory of our country that, under the great principle of religious freedom the Bible has been more generally distributed and the gospel more widely preached than in any other land or nation. Our people are really better informed in scriptural doctrines and revelations than others. Perfect religious freedom and the general study of the Bible has been the most potent factor in making this country the marvel of the world in progress and development. I am glad to know that many statesmen in high positions are beginning to recognize the fact that, not by legal statutes, however wise and efficient, but by the gospel, the living ministry, the church, the school, we are to make a true, intelligent, and noble citizenship. It was but a few days ago that our first citizen, the President of this great republic, laid aside the arduous labors of his high office and travelled to a distant city to make a speech on home missions. This was a significant act, and carries with it a great lesson. The Western senator who attacked him for doing so, in a speech "for buncombe," on the floor of the Senate, clearly demonstrated his incapacity, for the corner-stone of our government and its greatest glory is the principle which gives to every man, however high, however low, to hold, teach, and practice his religion, true or false.

Home mission work, preaching, teaching, circulating the Bible, saturating the whole land with Bible doctrines, precepts and promises, will Christianize, sanctify and save our people, and give us the leadership of the world and the love of all mankind. Let us all go for home missions, and go with an earnestness and power to make our work felt in all other departments of Christian effort, and in

every "nook and corner" of our great country. Do this, and we help every interest, religious or secular, at home and to all the ends of the earth!

Hollins, Va.

CHARLES L. COCKE.

MISSION WORK AT LEXINGTON, VA.

Brother B. H. Dement, missionary of the Home Board at Lexington, Va., presents an excellent report of work done for the year ending April 1st.

In submitting the report, Brother Dement says: "I preach occasionally in neighboring school-houses. We have brick on church lot for rebuilding and enlarging our Sunday-school room, and hope to begin work on improving the building at once."

The following is a synopsis of Brother Dement's work for the year:

Weeks of labor,	-	-	-	-	-	52
Sermons and addresses,	-	-	-	-	-	241
Prayer-meetings,	-	-	-	-	-	188
Baptisms, -	-	-	-	-	-	55
Received by letter,	-	-	-	-	-	12
Total additions,	-	-	-	-	-	71
Religious visits,	-	-	-	-	-	246
Tracts distributed (p.p.),	-	-	-	-	-	7,675

POPULATION AND DENOMINATIONAL INCREASE.

During the century ending with 1890 the population of the United States increased from 3,939,214 to about 63,000,000, or about sixteen-fold. During the same period the Baptists increased from 65,345 to 3,717,969, or more than fifty-six-fold. If other anti-pedobaptist and immersionist parties were considered the rate of Baptist increase would be considerably larger. Thus it appears that from 1790 to 1890 Baptists have increased nearly four times as fast as the population. It must also be borne in mind that Baptists have gained far less from immigration than almost any other of the larger denominations. Lutherans, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians and Episcopalians have profited largely by the great influx of population from Ireland, Germany, England, Scotland, Italy, and the Scandinavian and Slavonic countries of Europe. Baptist immigration has been insignificant in comparison.

With so large a part of the population of the country under the influence of Baptists; with prejudices against their principles in great measure overcome; with principles in thorough accord with the cherished civil institutions of the nation; with a constituency

alive to the responsibilities and opportunities that come from past success; with home and foreign mission societies well organized, in receipt of large incomes, and face to face with their work; with educational institutions of the highest grade widely distributed throughout the country; with publication facilities and a religious press that leave nothing to be desired; with a fair measure of wealth and social position, and a firm hold of the middle classes of the population, the achievements during the coming century should surpass those of the past.

A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.

The English Promises to be a Universal Language.—It would appear that God has always chosen some one language to be a vehicle of his thoughts. When mankind was in its cradle, and He desired that the law should be the school-master that would prepare men for the coming Christ, He spoke in the pictorial Hebrew. When it was necessary that the Gospel should have the widest publicity the Roman power extended around the world, and the Greek language was universal. Paul, the great missionary, under the protection of his Roman citizenship, could travel over the known world in comparative safety; and in the Greek language could make every man understand the wonderful work of God.

Thus will God make the power of the English-speaking people praise Him. He has tied the world together by the swift steamships that plough the ocean blue, and the steel rail of the iron horse. The swift message of the telegraph gives the nations a common sympathy by a common knowledge. And the ubiquitous American gives a common language to the world.

This is not too much to hope or expect. Already the "English language, saturated with Christian ideas, gathering up into itself the best thoughts of all ages, is the great agent of Christian civilization throughout the world, at this moment affecting the destinies and moulding the character of half of the human race." Jacob Grimm, the German philologist, said of this language: "It seems chosen to rule in future times in a still greater degree in all of the corners of the earth." The language of Shakespeare is to be the language of mankind, and this language shall extend its influence,

"Till the war drum throbs no longer, and the battle flags are furl'd,
In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world."

From all of these considerations it would appear that the future of the English-speaking people was assured. Herbert Spencer said: "One great result is, I think, tolerably clear. From biological truths it is to be inferred that the eventual mixture of the allied

varieties of the Aryan race, forming the population, will produce a more powerful type of man than has hitherto existed, and a type of man more plastic, more adaptable, more capable of undergoing the modifications needful to complete social life. I think whatever difficulties they may have to surmount, and whatever tribulations they may have to pass through, the Americans may reasonably look forward to a time when they will have produced a civilization grander than any the world has known."

With all of these facts before us, my conclusion is not far to reach. We must see to it that the English-speaking people are rooted and grounded in the faith of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and then kindle an enthusiasm in their hearts for the conversion of the world that will only be satisfied with preaching the gospel round and round this old world. I do not think it will be undue for me to say that I know none more capable of doing this than are the Baptists. I believe the highest type of Christian manhood is a Baptist. And holding the truth, as I believe he does, it is his duty, with a flaming torch, to light up every dark place of the earth.—John T. Christian.

Whether considered as a seat of agriculture, mining or manufacture, the south is still virgin soil. Its possibilities are even more remarkable than its recent progress, and as the one is developed and the other expands it is destined to add in the near future more than any other part of the country to the aggregate wealth of the nation.—*The Boston Herald*.

It rests largely with the Baptists to determine if it shall also add to the moral and religious wealth.

Who can complain of a narrow sphere for action when God gives him a world-wide sphere for prayer!

The first recorded apostolic act, after the ascension, was the gathering in the upper chamber at Jerusalem.

The first two things in the early church were prayer and missions, and the deepest alliance in the early church was between missions and prayer.—*The Missionary Intelligencer*.

In the history of the early church, whose development for years was almost the start of missionary progress, every step was christened and crowned by prayer.—*The Missionary Intelligencer*.

William McCombs Indian Missionary.

Dear Bro. Tichenor:—In connection with my annual report, I want to say that never in the history of the Creek and Seminole Baptists have they been more determined and firm to discharge their Christian duties than they are at the present. Our associational missionaries are doing noble work, supplying destitute places, and the Lord is blessing their labors.

My duty connected with our Association is that of corresponding secretary and superintending the Wichita Church out at Anadarko. The chief of the Wichitas is one of the most noble Christian men I ever met. Having served as Moderator of our Association for so many years, they call me father, and will not follow the advice of strangers. On several occasions they have been persuaded to sever their connection with us and join one of the Associations not in sympathy with the Home Mission Board, but they have remained with us unmovable.

In some locations, where families are thickly settled and the majority of them are English speaking, we have Sunday schools in operation, and, while I give them all the encouragement I can, but not being directly connected with the work, I have never included them in my report, as my work is mostly with the full bloods. They being sparsely settled, it would be difficult to conduct a Sunday school. Another difficulty is they have no Sunday-school literature in their language.

Your brother in Christ,

WILLIAM McCOMBS.

April 11, 1896.

Bro. McCombs' report shows 47 weeks of service; stations supplied, 40; sermons and addresses, 130; prayer meetings attended, 56; Indians baptized, 38; religious visits, 47; churches

constituted, 1; and houses of worship built, 3, at a cost of \$1,050.

The following letter is from an esteemed brother in the ministry in Georgia:

Dear Brother:—I want to thank you sincerely for sending the tracts. I preach to strong country churches, but to a people who have not been educated to give. I did not know what was best. I could not advise with the Church, for I had learned that some were opposed to missions, some were opposed to the Boards, and some were a little afraid of "touching the Brer." Without consulting any one, I announced that the last thing before our Sunday morning sermon would be a collection for missions. They were surprised. But we take the collections without song, and every collection has been in advance of the preceding one. Some complaint I heard at first, but they have learned that it does us all good to give.

I read Bro. "Holt's Experience" to my congregations before our last collections, and I am sure that those who opposed the Boards and missions before will keep the matter strictly to themselves in the future. Oh! the tears that were shed. It seemed that we were going to have a regular summer-time country revival.

Co-operative Work in Alabama.

Selma, Ala., March 31, 1896.

My Dear Brother:—Please find enclosed my quarterly report. I have just closed a very interesting institute at Rockford, Coosa county, the most interesting one yet held by myself. For three days we had a crowded house—the people came from ten to fifteen miles. Indeed, the success of the institute was far beyond my expectation. There were earnest pleas from all sides—

that I should return as soon as possible. I feel that much good is being done by this plan of co-operation.

Yours for the success of the plan,
R. T. POLLARD.

General Missionary for Alabama.

Bro. Pollard gives interesting accounts of other institutes held in different parts of the State and the great good being accomplished.

Tennessee Needs the Gospel.

Columbia, Tenn., April 1, 1896.

Dear Brother:—As missionary of your Board, connected with our State Board, I write you a few facts concerning the work in this immediate section of our beautiful State.

Having travelled the State four years in the interest of our "Orphans' Home," I think I am prepared to speak of the relative destitution in the various sections of the State that are asking help of our Mission Boards. I am on the border of a great field, about 200 miles long and an average of about 40 miles wide. Much of this country is Duck and Tennessee river bottom lands. We have three missionaries employed to reach with the Gospel this great waste place.

The conditions of the field are such as to call imperatively for fifty men

to come in and possess the land. In former times, say fifty years ago, anti-missionary Baptists had possession of the entire country, but they persisted in saying, "We will not give." Now our God is saying to them, in solemn providence, "You shall not live," until they now have one church only, and that prides itself in having regular services, so far as I can learn, and this one has been excluded from their Association for heresy, the charge being "sympathy for the missionary movement." Pedo-Baptists have endeavored to enter the field, but can accomplish but little, the people being Baptist inclined. It seems that our Heavenly Father has made this our special work for His glory.

My sacrifices are sweet when I can feel that they are made for the Master and those for whom He died. I only wish our people could know the pressing need for self-denial now.

T. T. THOMPSON, Missionary.

A careful estimate, based on all available sources of information, brings out the total weight of diamonds exported from South Africa down to the end of 1892 at 50,000 carats, or something over ten tons. The value of this mass of gems would be about \$350,000,000. If heaped together they would form a pyramid six feet high on a base of nine feet square.—*Missionary Review*.

RECEIPTS OF THE HOME MISSION BOARD

From March 15th to April 15, 1896.

ALABAMA.—Sunday School, Roanoke, Arnold S. Smith, \$10; Sumterville ch., by W. H. Brown (self denial), \$3.66; Liberty Coosa ch., Hoke's Bluff, by Rev. L. Culbertson, \$7; Providence ch., Dallas county, by Lewis Johnson, \$4; Ladies' So., Georgiana, box frontier missionary, \$42.51;

Ladies' So., Oswichee, box frontier missionary, \$77.70; Ladies' So., York and Cuba, box frontier missionary, \$15.75; Roanoke ch., Arnold S. Smith, \$25; Friendship ch., D. W. Ramsey, \$10. Total, \$195.62.

Previously reported, \$2,659.59. Aggregate since May, \$2,855.21.

ARKANSAS.—Ladies of Little Rock churches, by Mrs. E. Longley (self denial), \$7.77; Camden ch., by J. E. Lide, \$3.10; Sunbeams Missionary So., First ch., Jonesboro, Miss Anniebelle Clark, Sec., \$1.79; Ladies' Aid So., Nashville, Rev. C. W. Strickland, \$4; Howard county Ass'n, R. D. Neal, Treas., \$2.80; Ebenezer ch., Bartholomew Ass'n, Rev. W. C. Harley, \$1.25; Monticello ch., Rev. W. W. Gardner, \$22.80; Saline ch., Bradley county, Rev. W. W. Gardner, \$1.85; First ch., Jonesboro, P. C. Barton, \$20.54; Philadelphia ch., P. C. Barton, \$1. Total, \$116.90.

Previously reported, \$1,188.95. Aggregate since May, \$1,305.85.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—Metropolitan ch., Washington, S. M. Yeatman, \$22; Anacostia ch., Washington, S. M. Yeatman, \$5; E Street ch., Washington, S. M. Yeatman, \$1; Calvary ch., Washington, Chas. H. Ruoff, Treas., \$100; Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Societies, auxiliary B. Y. P. U. A.—Gay Street ch., Washington, box frontier missionary, \$30; Y. P. S. C. E., Gay Street ch., Washington (contributed), box frontier missionary, \$10. Total, \$168.

Previously reported, \$524.15. Aggregate since May, \$692.15.

FLORIDA.—Bellville ch., by Mrs. Annie Jessup, \$2.05.

Previously reported, \$963.22. Aggregate since May, \$965.27.

GEORGIA.—Thomas and Maud R. McChee, Columbus (self denial), \$20; Hillside ch., by Wyke Ivey, \$1; W. M. So., Fort Valley ch., Miss Lee Dunlin, Treas. (self denial), \$12; Miss Mollie Rhodes, Hephzibah (self denial), \$1; First ch., Augusta, Rev. Lansing Burrows, \$117.92; Infant class Duffy Street ch., Savannah, by Morton Frierson, \$20; Miss Millie Rutherford, Athens (self denial), \$10; J. G. Gibson, Cor. Sec., Indian missions, \$13.34; J. G. Gibson, Cor. Sec., Cuba missions, \$1; J. G. Gibson, Cor. Sec., \$1,019.51; W. M. So., First ch., Rome, Mrs. H. Cooper, Treas., \$10; Mrs. Walton H. Wiggs, Cochran (self denial), \$20; Ladies' So., Millen ch., box frontier missionary, \$15; W. M. So., Hephzibah, Mrs. N. B. Frost, Treas. (self denial), \$5.25; W. M. So., Perry, Mrs. W. M. Edge, Treas., \$5; L. A. So., Rochelle, Miss Ella Nance, Sec. (self denial), \$2.25; W. M. So., Hephzibah ch., Mrs. Isabella S. Jordan (self denial), \$5; W. M. So., Augusta ch., Mrs. Isabella S. Jordan, \$37.19; J. G. Gibson, Cor. Sec., \$709.70; J. G. Gibson, Cor. Sec., Cuban missions, \$14.52; Earnest Workers, Tennesse, by Mrs. J. B. Gambrell, Cor. Sec., \$2.25; Missionary Helpers, Long Cane, by Mrs. J. B. Gambrell, Cor. Sec., \$1; L. A.

So., First ch., Columbus, by Mrs. J. B. Gambrell, Cor. Sec., \$2; Southern Female College, College Park, C. C. Cox, Pres., \$18; "A Friend," Hephzibah, \$5; Young Ladies' Missionary So., Milledgeville, Miss Fannie Scott, Treas., \$5.35; W. M. So., Reynolds, Mrs. E. E. Hodges, Sec., \$4.35; W. M. U., First ch., Atlanta, Mrs. J. H. Goldsmith, Treas., \$11. Total, \$2,088.63.

Previously reported, \$7,439.31. Aggregate since May, \$9,527.94.

KENTUCKY.—W. M. So., First ch., Bowling Green, Mrs. B. F. Proctor (salary), teacher in Rev. J. V. Cova's school, Havana (sent Jan. 15th), \$25; Miss Lucie Norton, Louisville (self denial), \$300; Miss Mattie Norton, Louisville (self denial), \$250; Mrs. Martha Norton, Louisville (self denial), \$250; W. M. So., Glen Creek, Miss May Edwards, Treas., \$3.20; W. M. So., First ch., Bowling Green, Mrs. B. F. Proctor, teacher in J. V. Cova's school, \$25; Ewing ch., Rev. J. I. Kendrick, \$7.32; Mrs. M. E. Blakey, Auburn, \$5; Sonora ch., Josiah Phillips, \$5; W. M. So., Loudon, Mrs. P. F. Stillings, Treas., \$9; Wilmoth Garnett, Hopkinsville, \$25; W. M. So., First ch., Bowling Green, Mrs. B. F. Proctor (self denial), \$14.50. Total, \$919.02.

Previously reported, \$5,356.94. Aggregate since May, \$6,275.96.

LOUISIANA.—First ch., New Orleans, Francis Downey, Treas. for debt of that ch., \$30.50; W. M. So., Valence Street ch., New Orleans, by Mrs. J. F. Love (self denial), \$12; Industrial school, Valence Street ch., New Orleans, by Mrs. J. F. Love, \$5.30; G. A. Turner, Treas., \$75; King's Helpers, Valence Street ch., New Orleans (self denial), \$30.21; Mrs. R. A. Beck, Benton's Ferry (self denial), \$1. Total, \$154.01.

Previously reported, \$958.80. Aggregate since May, \$1,112.81.

MARYLAND.—W. B. H. M. So. of Maryland, Mrs. Ida H. Tyler, Treas., \$100; Fourth ch., Baltimore, F. R. Harbaugh, Treas., \$16.60; W. B. H. M. So., Centennial Mission So., Rockville, contribution to box frontier missionary, \$18.21; W. B. H. M. So., Franklin Square ch., Baltimore, German work, \$9; W. B. H. M. So., Seventh ch., Baltimore, German work, \$12. Total, \$155.81.

Previously reported, \$5,817.55. Aggregate since May, \$5,973.36.

MISSISSIPPI.—Mt. Pisgah ch., J. F. Whitfield, Treas., \$9.60; Clear Creek ch., R. G. Hemlett, \$5; Concord ch., by Rev. Chas. Elliott, \$5.10; West Point ch., J. L. Sproles, \$10; Ladies' So., Brooksville, box frontier missionary, \$100; Ladies' So., Clinton, Jackson and Edwards, box frontier missionary, \$43; Mrs. E. J. Manning, Days (self denial), \$5; T. J. Bailey, Treas., \$150; W. M. So., County Line ch., Mrs. S. E. Cook, Pres., \$5; W. M. So., West

Point, by Mrs. S. E. Chandler, \$5; A. V. Rowe, Cor. Sec., \$100; First ch., Meridian, R. H. Gill, \$25. Total, 462.70.

Previously reported, \$1,362.40. Aggregate since May, \$1,825.10.

MISSOURI.—Ladies' So., Maryville, box frontier missionary, \$25; Ladies' So., Mexico, box frontier missionary, \$24; Ladies' So., Osceola, box frontier missionary, \$21.25; Ladies' So., Fayette, box frontier missionary, \$30; Miss Mamie Quackenbush's S. S. class, Cape Girardeau, box frontier missionary, \$15; Ladies' So., Lamar (contribution), box frontier missionary, \$10; Ladies' So., Slater, box frontier missionary, \$93; W. M. So., by A. E. Rogers, Treas., for Missouri, \$100.47; W. M. So., by A. E. Rogers, Treas., for Missouri, \$96.89; A. E. Rogers, Treas., for Missouri, \$200.85. Total, \$706.46.

Previously reported, \$3,194.57. Aggregate since May, \$3,901.03.

NORTH CAROLINA.—J. M. Stoner, Treas., Western North Carolina Convention, \$7.28; J. M. Stoner, Treas., Western North Carolina Convention, \$3; J. M. Stoner, Treas., Western North Carolina Convention, \$9.20; J. M. Stoner, Treas., Western North Carolina Convention, \$30.10. Total, \$49.58.

Previously reported, \$2,435.88. Aggregate since May, \$2,485.46.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—Bold Spring ch., Edgefield Ass'n, by J. S. Jordan, \$2.50; Midway ch., Abbeville Ass'n, J. B. Hampton, \$2.30; Holly Springs ch., L. C. Ezell, \$4.50; Clear Spring ch., W. J. McKinney, 45c.; Mrs. E. B. Vass, Greenwood (self denial), \$5; Gowensville ch., J. O. Wingo, Treas., \$2.45; Fort Lawn ch., D. H. Jordan, Treas., \$5; Sunday School, Darlington, C. B. Edwards, \$4.53; Florence ch., W. J. Brown, Treas., \$24.16; Pine Pleasant ch., Ridge Ass'n, W. H. Simpson, \$8; North Fork ch., North Greenville Ass'n, Rev. J. S. M. Finch, \$1; Head of Tiger ch., North Greenville Ass'n, Rev. J. S. M. Finch, \$1.28; Hoover's ch., by R. H. Ferguson, \$12.50; Ridge Spring ch., Miss C. D. Watson, Treas., \$10; Bush River ch., by I. M. Smith, \$23; Pendleton Street ch., Greenville, W. L. Kellett, Treas., \$7.15; Mrs. T. A. Townsend, Ninety Six, \$50c.; Healing Springs ch., Burnwell Ass'n, by J. J. Ray, \$3; Yorkville ch., Sam M. Grist, Treas., \$8; Sumter ch., Miss Fannie Haynesworth, \$11.95; Chesterfield Ass'n, Albert Eddins, Treas., \$5. Greenwood Sunday School, R. J. Cartledge, Treas., \$10; Union ch., J. H. McKissick, Treas., \$1.67; Central Committee, W. M. So., Mrs. John Stout, Cor. Sec. (self denial), \$48.15; Central Committee, W. M. So., Mrs. John Stout, frontier missionary, \$5; Central Committee, W. M. So., Mrs. John Stout, \$81.77; Mother Pack Mission Band, Pendleton Street ch., Greenville, \$43; Mt. Zion ch., J. H. Dodd,

Treas., \$6.50; Easley ch., J. N. Howard, Treas., \$1.90; Sunday School, Gaffney, Miss L. C. Budd, \$7.50; First ch., Gaffney, Miss L. C. Budd, \$2.72; Hartsville ch., J. M. Lawton, Treas., \$6.76; Hartsville Sunday School, J. M. Lawton, Treas., \$5.32; First ch., Spartanburg, W. L. Derieux \$25; Little River ch., Fairfield Ass'n, T. I. Roach, Treas., \$2.57; Republican ch., Edgefield Ass'n, R. H. McKee, Treas., \$2.50; Mt. Ebal ch., Edisto Ass'n, L. M. Jones, \$2.45; First ch., Newberry, R. Y. Leavell, Treas., \$9.57; Sunday School, First ch., Newberry, R. Y. Leavell, Treas., \$4.31; Rutherford Street ch., Greenville, R. C. Goodlett, Treas., \$2.67; Graham ch., Santee Ass'n, J. T. Haynes, \$1.07; Marion Union, Lower Section, Pee Dee Ass'n, R. W. Brown, \$7.52; Village ch., Edgefield, O. Sheppard, Treas., \$25; T. M. Bailey, Cor. Sec., \$30.57; Friendship ch., B. K. O'Shields, \$3.76; Ebenezer ch., Ridge Ass'n, B. J. Harrison, Treas., \$10; W. L. Jones, Effingham, \$4.92; Cool Branch ch., Chester Ass'n, J. F. V. Legge, Treas., \$3.70; Clover ch., T. G. Matthews, Treas., \$3.79; Cheraw ch., by Miss Annie J. Evans, \$7.60; Due West ch., by Henry B. McGee, \$10; Corinth ch., J. S. Hart, Treas., \$8.50; Beaver Creek ch., Chester Ass'n, by W. S. Durham, \$5.25; El Bethel ch., J. E. Jeffries, Treas., \$3.37. Total, \$536.68.

Previously reported, \$3,005.47. Aggregate since May, \$3,542.15.

TENNESSEE.—J. C. McLain, Fry, \$2; W. M. Woodcock, Treas., \$125.14; "Earnest Willie," McKenzie, \$5; Miss India Horn, Springfield, \$2; M. M. Rutledge, Dante, \$1; Ladies' So., Inman Street ch., Cleveland, box frontier missionary, \$38.75; Young South, Laura D. Eakin, Treas., \$3.95; Rev. J. H. Pierce, Una, 97c. Total, \$178.81.

Previously reported, \$4,639.70. Aggregate since May, \$4,818.51.

TEXAS.—Antioch ch., J. H. Pickett, Clerk, \$10; W. M. So., Mrs. W. Young, Treas., \$7.90; Macedonia ch., H. Y. Liveley, \$6.25. Total, \$24.15.

Previously reported, \$2,314.86. Aggregate since May, \$2,339.01.

VIRGINIA.—Norwell Ryland, Treas., \$500; Mrs. O. A. Palmer, Rippon, Jefferson county, W. Va., \$2. Total, \$502.

Previously reported, \$7,180.52. Aggregate since May, \$7,682.52.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Oklahoma District Ass'n, Geo. T. Jones, Treas., Oklahoma Territory, \$8.50; Collections by A. L. Suelling, Treas., North Pacific Coast Baptist Convention, Washington, \$200. Total, \$208.50.

Previously reported, \$7,180.52. Aggregate since May, \$301.35.

Grand total, \$6,468.92. Previously reported, \$40,134.76. Aggregate since May, \$55,603.63.

Woman's Missionary Union,

AUXILIARY TO S. B. C.

MOTTO: "GO FORWARD."

No. 9 WEST LEXINGTON STREET, - BALTIMORE, MD.

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Editorial communications to this department should be addressed to Miss ALICE ARMSTRONG, 1423 McCulloh street, Baltimore, Md. Orders for literature, which must be accompanied with money, stamps, postal notes or orders, should be sent to Maryland Baptist Mission Rooms, 9 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, Md.

MISSION-CARD TOPIC FOR MAY, 1896.

ITALY.—"I am ready to preach the Gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ." Missionaries, 3; native assistants, 28; stations, 46; churches, 18; membership, 353; baptisms, 28; Sunday-school scholars, 287; contributions, \$357.25.

STUDY TOPICS.—*Beginning of Mission work in Italy. History of S. B. C. missions. What is the duty of each church, society and individual in the bounds of our Convention, to this work? Hindrances to Gospel work in Italy—ignorance, superstition, and the determined opposition of Romanists.*

PROGRAM FOR MAY, 1896.

SUBJECT—ITALY.

"God's people are to be measured rather than counted. It is not numbers but quality that tells."

1. Opening prayer for Italy and the missionaries—foreign and native.

2. Item.—Roman Catholic view of the situation in Italy.—"What has the Italian Government done for the country? It has closed 4,000 religious institutions, robbed 50,000 men and women of their means of subsistence, impoverished 380 convents, and made the clergy liable to military service until their fortieth year. Religion has been banished from the schools, the property of churches and charitable institutions, as well as the income of the Papal See, have been confiscated, and the Pope himself is forced to accept the charity of the faithful. Yet these men miss no chance to declare that the Catholics enjoy perfect freedom!"

3. Hymn—"In the cross of Christ I glory."

4. Scripture—2 Pet.: 1st chapter.
5. Chain of prayer for growth in the divine likeness.
6. Paper—Hindrances to Work in Italy.
7. Item—"What Italy specially needs is the practicing of a purer Gospel by those who see its peril and know nothing personally of the thralldom of its peculiar conditions."
8. Special prayer for the meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention and Woman's Missionary Union at Chattanooga.
9. Music arranged by the committee.
10. Leaflet—"In an Italian Hospital," by Rev. J. H. Eager.
11. Urge S. B. C. publications—Mission Journal, 50 cents; Young People's Leader, 75 cents; Kind Words, 50 cents.
12. Hymn—"Jesus, lover of my soul."

Monthly Missionary Literature.

FOR CHURCH CONCERTS AND MISSIONARY SOCIETIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE.—With "Italy" as the subject for mission study, all along the line, from the oldest to the youngest, suitable literature has been prepared for each department through (1) the monthly leaflet and program of the Maryland Baptist Mission Rooms, 30 cents; (2) the Mission Journal, 50 cents; (3) Young People's Leader, 75 cents; (4) Kind Words (50 cents), Missionary Department. One, two, or all of these sources of knowledge, will be helpful for all classes of leaders, thoroughly furnishing them with information, not regarding the ends of the earth in general, but the work and needs of S. B. C. missions, which it is our especial business to know about, pray for, and contribute to. Two dollars and five cents for a year of helpfulness toward efficiently conducting missionary meetings, or

four cents per week, is purchasing the consecrated brains, burning hearts, and skilled hands of many missionary workers at a very small price. Let this investment be made for one year and honestly tried. The money will not be wasted, and we think the investment will be permanently made.

Rev. J. H. Eager, whose return to America we are gladly expecting this month, has written the monthly leaflet for Italy, called "In an Italian Hospital." Written charmingly as he ever writes, the leaflet gives us a peep into hospital life, with its Romish surroundings, that will give us new ideas of the ubiquity of the priestly power even in united Italy, making evangelistic work still one of grave difficulty. Price, 3 cents. Maryland Baptist Mission Rooms, 9 W. Lexington street, Baltimore.

The Privilege of Work.

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance, self-control, diligence, strength of will, content, and a hundred virtues which the idle will never know.—Charles Kingsley.

Letter from Italy.

Florence, Italy, Jan. 23, 1896.

My Dear Miss Armstrong,—Your kind letter of last summer has not been forgotten, although it has lain so long unanswered. My domestic duties are heavy, and by the time I have done a little something outside of the home circle the day is used up, and I am feeling too tired to take advantage of those quiet evening hours which might otherwise be devoted to correspondence.

Speaking for myself, I have kept up with the noble and earnest work of the

W. M. U. Either through the kindness of the editors, or in return for articles we have sent them, we receive nearly all of the Southern Baptist papers, and, as I am a great reader of newspapers, I manage to keep abreast of the various movements at home. I am much obliged, however, for your personal letter, and appreciate your interest in us and in our particular work.

The mission in Florence is in a hopeful stage, and we never felt more encouraged than at present. Our converts of the past year belong to a most satisfactory class, being chiefly young men under twenty-five years of age, who already have good, if humble, business outlooks, and who possess the independence which usually accompanies such a state of material things. It is also good to notice that they seek each other's society during their leisure hours, and thus become a mutual comfort and safeguard against evil companions.

With the New Year, our young Christians formed themselves into the Gruppo del Redentore, or Group of the Redeemer. So you see we in Italy also have some initials with which to puzzle outsiders, as the many societies in the United States are accused of doing. Our G. D. R. follows the lessons and general line marked out by the Christian Endeavor Society, especially the requirement of personal testimony from each member. At a recent meeting twenty were present, and six took active part, which is encouraging, in view of the fact that few of them were Christians a year ago, and are not even the children of Christian parents—an inestimable advantage possessed by our Southern young people.

Already they are doing practical work by undertaking the sextonship

of our chapel, and by standing at the door to invite strangers to enter. But their ever-present idea is to advance their own spiritual life, and, at the same time, train themselves for Christian work, with special reference to volunteer service in the outlying villages of Florence, going out by twos on Sundays, when material interests leave them free to do so.

Other converts are soldiers, who are serving their military term of from one to three years in the garrison of Florence, and who will, therefore, soon return home to their respective callings in life. But we cannot regret losing them from our immediate circle, when we know that they go out from our midst to sow the seed broadcast throughout Italy.

Mr. Eager's afternoon meeting on Sunday continues to be the best attended service we have, and is known among the other churches here as one of the best meetings in town. It is bright and full of movement, being an effort to attract strangers, in the hope that they may afterwards attend the regular Bible study, which is designed more especially for the instruction and encouragement of those who are seriously seeking after truth.

We very earnestly wish we could see some prospect of the chapel, which we so much need as a stable centre of the work in Florence and vicinity. The present hall is a good one, but not over central, and beginning to be too small for our ever-growing needs. The presence of one hundred and more persons on Sunday afternoon, together with the heat of the gas jets, make the room so close and uncomfortable that late comers often decline to enter.

We also sadly need a more private room for those who accept the invitation to remain for serious conversation after service on any subject awakened

by the preaching. We need such a room, too, for the Reading Club, which has just been organized for our young people, to meet between 6 and 8 P. M. every day. We are forced to use the hall for this purpose at present, since, apart from the additional expense involved, it does not seem advisable to meet in another building, where the club might not seem so direct an adjunct of our mission as we wish it to be regarded.

We report both Mr. Eager and myself are well, though rather worn down nervously, which is partly the result of a trying work, and partly the effect of the climate. The mild climate of Italy makes few demands upon the constitution, yet neither does it afford any assistance, and, after a few years' residence, Anglo-Saxons feel its enervating influence.

However, we are hoping for a change, which will send us back to our chosen work with renewed strength, both spiritual and physical. If all goes well with us, we hope to meet you face to face before many moons have come and gone.

Until then, may God be with you and with us in all that we say or do in the name of His dear Son.

Yours affectionately,
OLIVE MAY EAGER.

Frontier Boxes.

From the following W. M. U. Societies boxes of supplies, valued as below, have been reported as sent to home missionaries since March 9th:

Inman Street Church, Cleveland, Tenn., \$38.75; Georgiana, Ala., \$42.51; Oswichee, Ala., \$77.70; York and Cuba, Ala., \$15.75; Centennial Mission Society, Rockville, Md. (contribution), \$18.21; Franklin Square Church, Baltimore, Md. (contribution to German work), \$9; Seventh Church, Baltimore,

Md. (contribution to German work), \$12; Brooksville, Miss., \$100; Millen Church, Ga., \$15; The Mother Pack Mission Band, Pendleton Street Church, Greenville, S. C., \$43; Clinton, Jackson & Edwards, Miss., \$43; Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Societies, auxiliary to B. Y. P. U. A., Gay Street Church, Washington, D. C., \$30; Y. P. S. C. E., Gay Street Church, Washington, D. C. (contribution), \$10; Maryville, Mo., \$25; Mexico, Mo., \$24; Osceola, Mo., \$21.25; Fayette, Mo., \$30; Miss Mamie Quackenbush's S. S. Class, Cape Girardeau, Mo., \$15; Lamar, Mo. (contribution), \$10; Slater, Mo., \$93; Graham, Texas, \$69; Stockdale, Texas, \$42; "Mission Jewels," Hyde Park Church, Austin, Texas, \$6; St. Francis Street Church, Mobile, Ala., \$20; Infant Class, St. Francis Street Church, Mobile, Ala., \$50; Galveston, Texas, \$75; Ennis, Texas, \$10; Second Church, Dallas, Texas, \$41. Total, \$986.17. Previously reported, \$19,447.96. Total, \$20,434.13.

ANNIE W. ARMSTRONG.

Christmas Offering to China.

It is very difficult, too, under the present circumstances, impossible—to get the full reports of this effort. Money designated by Societies, in some instances, is not credited by General State Treasurers, and thus the full amount is never known. Below is the most accurate accounts that can be had:

Alabama, \$197.78; Arkansas, \$64.84; Florida, \$85.69; Georgia, \$301.32; Kentucky, \$83.51; Louisiana, \$51.97; Maryland, \$255.03; Mississippi, \$67.64; Missouri, \$534.59; North Carolina, \$255.13; South Carolina, \$944.44; Tennessee, \$284.09; Texas, \$239.99; Virginia, \$687.54; Western North Carolina, \$3.47. Grand total, \$4,087.03.

ANNIE W. ARMSTRONG.



MINNIE'S SEASIDE REST.

This house, built as a summer resort for missionaries on furlough, is situated at Old Orchard Beach, in Maine, distant three hours from Boston, and thirty minutes from Portland, by the Boston and Maine railroad.

The beach is six miles long, and is hard and smooth as a floor, offering the finest facilities for bathing and driving. The summer climate is clear and bracing, and the country in the rear of the beach, with its fine carriage and electric roads, is a garden of grass and flowers. The water, brought from pure springs, is exceptionally fine, and is used for all domestic purposes.

The house, with its fifteen bed rooms, has every comfort and luxury. The beds are single, two in a room.

as best adapted to weary workers. The table will be first-class, like that of a private family. The price of board is \$4 a week. This sum pays the simple cost of the food as it comes from the market. The house will open on June 15, 1896, and close on September 15th. Missionaries can secure reduced rates by railroad if they ask for tickets to attend the Religious Convocations held on the camp ground.

Those who wish to spend two or three weeks at this delightful seaside resort will apply, giving endorsements from their Board or employer, to the Matron-elect, Miss Mulford, 61 Quincy street, Roxbury, Mass., or to Mrs. Charles Green, 1701 Park avenue, Baltimore, Md., U. S. A.

Eighth Annual Meeting, W. M. U.

In the April number of *The Journal* we tried to give an insight into the method of making up the program for the annual meeting, so as to attempt to meet the needs and wishes of the largest number. What the program is, as a whole, cannot be furnished, because it is not in entire readiness (April 15th), delay being caused by awaiting answers to requests for addresses from a few, who have not yet replied.

All the preparations at Chattanooga are going forward with beautiful promptness and energy. The Church selected is the First Presbyterian Church, corner Seventh street and Georgia avenue, only a half block removed from the Convention Church. The sessions will be as usual, on Friday, Saturday, and Monday mornings, from 9 A. M. to 12 M.; on Sunday, at 2:30 P. M. Mrs. John Eager, of Italy; Miss Sallie Hale, of Mexico, and Miss Buhlmaier, German missionary in Baltimore (whose interesting call to the work was given in the April Journal), will be present. The recommendations of the three Boards—Foreign, Home, and Sunday School—will constitute, as usual, the lines of work for adoption by the Woman's Missionary Union. The recommendations of the W. M. U., under a very pleasing device, of "Missionary Vowels," will embody methods of work. The seven vowels will stand for as many methods, discussions upon these being started by seven invited speakers, while all of the delegates having the printed programs in hand before attending the meeting can set their ideas in order to further discuss these methods. The secretaries of the Boards will all be in attendance, and will confine themselves to specially important phases of their special departments of work. A reception will be

given by the ladies of Chattanooga to their visitors.

Preparations only, however necessary, and the more thorough the better—preparations only, without the Spirit, will be as Ezekiel's vision of dry bones. The prayers of our 700,000 Baptist women for the seventy probable delegates who may be privileged to go will bring down a divine inspiration upon our representatives at work in Chattanooga that none shall be able to gainsay or resist. Work on our knees at home will be manifest in consecrated thought and speech at Chattanooga. Who will give her prayers?
A. A.

Better than Resignation—Diffusion.

The times when a faithful officer should not resign may be summed up as follows: When the work is decreasing; when the work is increasing; when the work is overwhelming. When decreasing, because it never needed her as then; when increasing, because her efforts are being blessed; when overwhelming, because if she confesses herself overborne, none will dare take her place. The days, however, are only twenty-four hours long. The work the faithful worker has created is overwhelming. She has raised a mountain, and it threatens to crush her. There seems no way but to resign and let some one, less able, take the threatened place.

There is another and better way. It is to divide the mountain of work into two little heaps, which may be sifted and assorted in ordinary time and by ordinary talent. In short, in many branches our women's work needs diffusion. The women of the churches are of three classes—those who are over-worked, those who long for work, and those who will not work. Bring the first two classes together. Instead

of resigning work, let work be assigning. Assigning is difficult, resigning is easy; but easy work is not honorable work. Christian work is the best and most honorable gift God has given to his people. Heaven has no higher emolument than this, that we be yoke-fellows with Christ. To work ourself requiries one talent; to lead others to work is a higher and more generous talent.

If the individual church work needs diffusion, the State Central Committee work suffers more, in the person of its officers, for want of it. The work in some instances has grown to enormous proportions. It is literally crushing those who have helped to make it what it is, and their thoughts turn to resignation as the only way of safety.

An officer has never done the best that may be done for a work until she has made it so strong that it can stand without her. This can only be done by the training of workers. Let me, therefore, suggest some very practical ways by which workers may be trained and the over-burdened officers of the Central Committees relieved. Draw together a group of younger women. Under supervision, let them at first be given simple work, increasing their responsibility as their knowledge of the work increases. Let one receive all the literature from the Union at her own home. Send to her all orders for literature to be sent to the Societies. If monthly or quarterly letters or leaflets are sent out to all Societies, find one who at her own home will regularly fold, direct and mail. If a number of similar letters are to be copied by hand, send twenty-five directed envelopes, with copy of letter, to half a dozen young women, who will gladly do the work. By and by, when some have developed greater aptitude and willingness than others,

seek two or three who will agree to answer two or three or four letters daily. Indicate the desired answer in a line and let each fill out.

Let some one be found to take entire charge of the columns in the State paper. These divisions will suggest others.

Do not let individuality be feared so long as it is consecrated individuality. Officers stand at the head, not in the way. Let the leaders give up a little if another is more willing to work in a right way not her own.

All this requires executive ability. Have women this talent? Largely undeveloped, it must be admitted. Yet, until it is exercised, the worker should realize that she has not given the best of herself to the work or to others. Let me repeat, it is generous to give away Christian work wisely.

FANNIE E. S. HECK.

Raleigh, N. C.

He Loved the Children Long Ago.

It is not much that we can give—
We know 'tis needed sadly;
But daily blessings comes to us,
Because we give it gladly.

The Saviour hears our earnest cries,
He sees each fond endeavor;
He loved the children long ago,
He loves them now as ever!

—Frank H. Stauffer.

(Tune, "Sweet Hour of Prayer.")
O, for the altar's glowing coal
To touch my lips—to fire my soul;
To purge the sordid dross away,
And pure as crystal make my clay.
Then, if a messenger He ask,
A laborer for the hardest task,
Through all my weakness and my fear,
Love shall reply, "Thy servant's here."

Now is the time to send fifty cents for
THE JOURNAL one year.

Band Department.

[Edited by Miss F. E. HECK, Raleigh, N. C.]

OUR NEIGHBORS.

A HOME MISSION EXERCISE.

HYMN—"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"
(Gospel Hymns, 1 to 6, No. 738).

The Law of Love. Five boys and a leader.

LEADER—What is the new law?

ANSWER—A new commandment I give
unto you, That ye love one another.

LEADER—What is the fulfilling of the
law?

ANSWER—All the law is fulfilled in one
word, even this: Thou shalt love thy
neighbor as thyself.

LEADER—What is the golden law?

ANSWER—As ye would that men should
do unto you, do ye even so to them.

LEADER—What is the royal law?

ANSWER—If ye fulfil the royal law ac-
cording to the Scriptures, Thou shalt love
thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well.

LEADER—Who is my neighbor?

ANSWER (reading or recitation)—Para-
ble of the Good Samaritan. Luke 10:
30-37 (first clause).

All together, slowly: "Go thou and
do likewise."

RECITATION: "WHO IS THY NEIGHBOR?"

"Who is thy neighbor? He whom thou
Hast power to aid or bless;
Whose aching heart or burning brow
Thy soothing hand may press.

"Thy neighbor? 'Tis the fainting poor,
whose eye with want is dim;
Oh, enter thou his humble door,
With aid and peace for him.

"Thy neighbor? He who drinks the cup
When sorrow drowns the brim,

With words of high, sustaining hope;
Go, then, and comfort him.

"Thy neighbor? Pass no mourner by;
Perhaps thou canst redeem
A breaking heart from misery;
Go share thy lot with him."

Hymn—"Christ Receiveth Sinful
Men" (Gospel Hymns, No. 1 to 6—331).

A MISSION-RECITATION BY LITTLE GIRL.

"I walked along a forest side,
Where light and shadow chases,
And flowers, my footsteps to betide,
Sprang thick in truant places.

"O tell me why your loveliness
These lonely by-ways graces?
They nodded back: 'We grow to bless,
And fill up empty places.'"

"Throw Out The Life Line"—Soly by
boy, with chorus of boys (Gospel Hymns,
Nos. 1 to 6—No. 441).

RECITATION: "HURRAH FOR OUR COUNTRY!"
Hurrah! loud and long for the United
States—

Our country—the broadest and best;
In all the wide realm of the far-reaching
earth,
Our country's of God the most blessed.
Hurrah for our eagle! With pinions out-
spread,
He shelters the ends of the earth;
Here Freedom and Peace hold a beckon-
ing hand
To welcome the men of all birth.

But thanks be to God for our motto of
hope,

"In God be our trust" firm and strong,
His Sabbath our rest-day, His Bible our
faith,
His Son and great Savior our Song.

Chorus of Girls—"Have You Sought"?
(Gospel Hymns, No. 1 to 6—No. 536.)

"ALL THE WORLD IS COME TO US."
(Six facts for six boys.)

"560,319 immigrants came to our shores
in 1891—105,000 more than in 1890, and
more than any previous year, except
1882."

"Of our 64,000,000, one in every seven
is foreign-born; one in every three is of
foreign parentage, and one in every six
is foreign speaking."

"Almost a hundredth part of our total
population has come to us within a year."

"Germany's hard times sent 30,000
more here in 1892."

"Famine and banishment increased
Russia's 60,000 to 100,000."

"Italy sent more, in spite of Interna-
tional difficulty. So Sweden and Nor-
way, Bohemia and Hungary."

"CLING TO THE BIBLE."

(Gospel Hymns, Nos. 1 to 6—392.)

Recite verses. All sing chorus.

ALL THE EARTH SHALL PRAISE THEE, OH
LORD!

[On an occurrence in a prayer-meeting in the
church of Rev. A. C. Dixon, Brooklyn, N. Y.]

Spoke out the preacher slowly,

"who here will testify

To God's great power and promise,

To men like you and I?"

He paused. One quickly answered:

"In broken words I speak;

God help me say it plainly:

Christ saves the faltering Greek."

"His power this Scandinavian
Would gladly testify,"

Said one whose slow voice halted

While tears bedimmed his eye.

"And sir, He saves the Hebrew,"
Spoke one of Israel's race,
"Ours was the chosen people;
Now bow I to His grace."

Then quick spoke Spaniard, Irish,
A Dane, and homeless Pole,
While sturdy Sweede proclaimed his
need

Of Christ to save his soul.

Perhaps in queerer accent

Praise ere was heard by none,

Yet one word clear, fell on each ear,

"Thank God for His dear Son!"

The preacher's voice rose tender

Above the listeners then:

"Thank God, indeed, dear hearers,

Christ died for sinful men.

Here speak eight mighty nations;

But know in our town's space

Dwell men of FORTY PEOPLES!

Haste! Tell the news of grace!"

THE HOME BOARD AND OUR NEIGHBORS.

(Ten girls.)

1. Our Home Mission Board has 425
missionaries among our neighbors.

2. These missionaries baptized 5,921
persons last year.

3. They organized 178 churches.

4. They built 52 church buildings, or
one for every week in the year.

5. They distributed more than 7,000
Bibles and Testaments.

6. In the last ten years they have added
to the churches 67,167 members.

7. They have built 640 churches.

8. They have organized 2,117 Sunday-
schools.

9. All this work has been done among
our neighbors—the white people, the
Indians, the foreigners, the colored peo-
ple, and in our neighbor island, Cuba.

10. Let us thank God for the work of
our Home Mission Board.

All together, slowly: Lord, hasten
the day when we shall no more teach

every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know ye the Lord, for all shall know Thee, from the least to the greatest.' Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Congregation standing — "To the Work!"

Benediction.

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